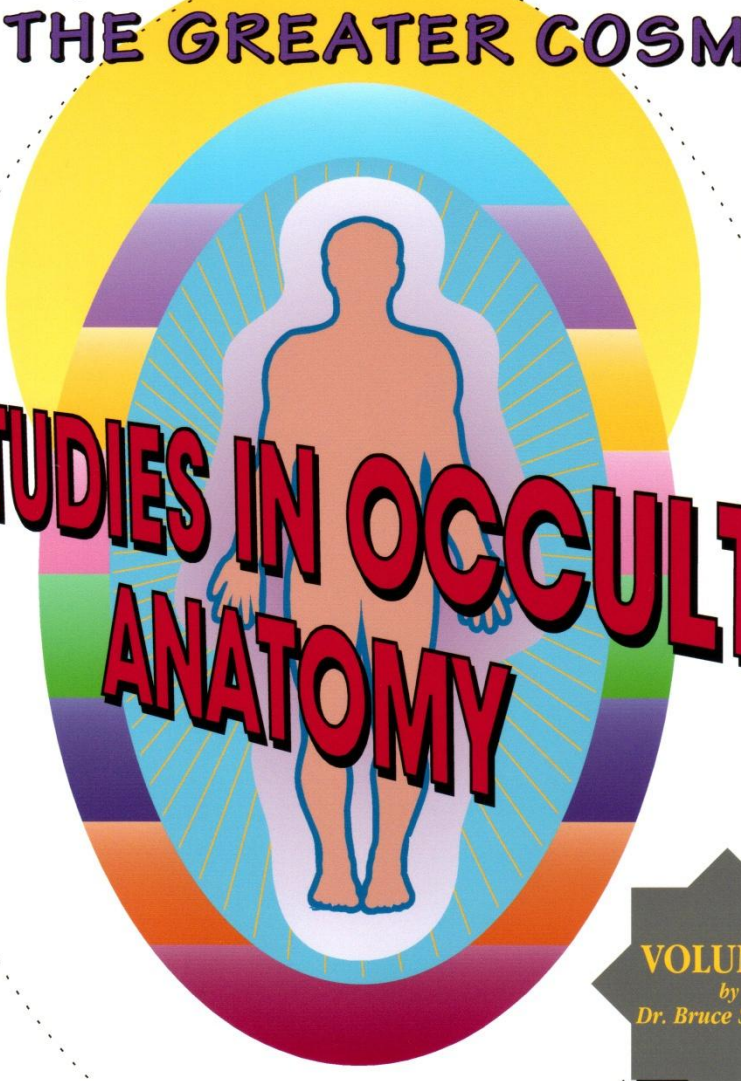


**MAN, GRAND REFLECTION  
OF THE GREATER COSMOS**



**STUDIES IN OCCULT  
ANATOMY**

**VOLUME 3**  
by  
*Dr. Bruce S. Fisher*

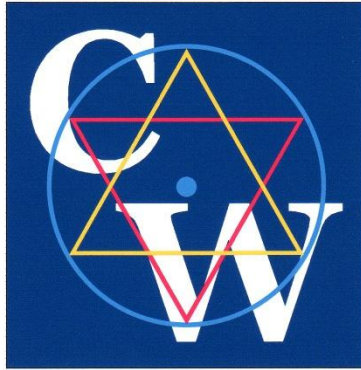
*Man is a Many-Splendored Being!*

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# MAN, GRAND REFLECTION OF THE GREATER COSMOS

*Studies in Occult Anatomy*

by  
Dr. Bruce S. Fisher

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## VOLUME 3

- I. **THE ASTRAL OR DESIRE BODY** — Our Emotional Nature and Fourth-Dimensional Consciousness.
- II. **SIGHT, THE MOST EXCELLENT OF SENSES** — The Mental Body, Fifth-Dimensional Consciousness and the Creative Power of Thought.
- III. **HEALING AND DISEASE IN LIGHT OF OUR SUBTLE BODIES.**
- IV. **THE EVOLUTIONARY PATH** — The Causal Body and the Higher Ego; Sixth-Dimensional Consciousness and Beyond.

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**Part I**  
*The Astral or Desire Body*



# THE SEVEN SOUNDS

***Before thou set'st thy foot upon the ladder's upper rung, the ladder of the mystic sounds, thou hast to hear the voice of thy inner GOD [the Higher SELF] in seven Manners.***

*The first is like the nightingale's sweet voice chanting a song of parting to its mate.*

*The second comes as the sound of a silver cymbal of the meditations, awakening the twinkling stars.*

*The next is the plaint melodious of the ocean sprite imprisoned in its shell.*

*And this is followed by the chant of the lute.*

*The fifth is like the sound of bamboo-flute shrills in thine ear.*

*It changes next into a trumpet-blast.*

*The last vibrates like the dull rumbling of a thundercloud.*

*The seventh swallows all the other sounds. They die, and then are heard no more.*

*When the six [the lower principles of personality and Ego] are slain and at the Master's feet are laid, then is the pupil merged into the ONE, becomes that ONE and lives therein.*

***Before that path is entered, thou must destroy thy lunar body [master the desire body], cleanse thy mind body and make clean thy heart.***

*Eternal life's pure waters, clear and crystal, with the monsoon tempest's muddy torrents cannot mingle. . . .*

*Strive with thy thoughts unclean before they overpower thee . . . for if thou sparest them and they take root and grow, know well, these thoughts will overpower and kill thee.*

***. . . Before the "Mystic Power" [the serpent-fire] can make of thee a god, aspirant, thou must have gained the faculty to slay thy lunar form [the desire nature] at will. . . .***

*Ere thou canst settle in the Path of Pure Knowledge and call it thine, thy Soul has to become as the ripe mango fruit: as soft and sweet as its bright golden pulp for others' woes, as hard as that fruit's stone for thine own throes and sorrows, O Conqueror of Weal and Woe.*

**H. P. Blavatsky in "The Voice of the Silence"**

## THE ASTRAL OR DESIRE BODY

- **The Astral or Desire World** — home of desires, impressionability, wishes, feelings, emotions and aspirations is:
  - **Pre-eminently a Realm of Color** — and a kaleidoscope of *changing forms*.
  - **A four-dimensional World** — where our perceptions of *space and time*, and the *laws of mechanics and gravitation* differ vastly from those of the Physical World. Astral “substance” or “*desire-stuff*” is of the nature of *force-matter* even more evanescent and transitory than the finest ethers of the Physical World. All sides of a three-dimensional object may be viewed at once, inside as well as outside.
  - **A World of Duality and Conflict** — in which consciousness is polarized by *attraction and repulsion, interest and disinterest*.
  - **Consciousness in the Lower Levels of the Astral World is a Purgatorial Experience** — more or less *negative* and *repulsive*—or at best neutral—because sensual desires, passions, raw impressions and wishes tend to be *separative* and *self-centered* by nature and thereby often interact in a *mutually destructive* way.
  - **The Midlevel (4th) of the Astral World (or “Borderland”) is a Limbo** — where consciousness is either indeterminate, “*neither here nor there*”; or in metastable equilibrium, where it is drawn by interest or disinterest to the lower or upper levels.
  - **Consciousness in the Upper Levels of the Astral World is a Heavenly (though Illusionary) Experience** — more or less *positive* or *attractive* because at these levels of vibration and attenuation, coarser desires and wishes have been transmuted to *spiritual aspirations, altruistic* and *artistic feelings*, and positive emotions of love, affection, hope and courage—which are synthetic, synergistic and *mutually supportive*.
- **The Astral or Desire Body is Our Vehicle of Feelings, Emotions and Desires** — our emotional organism.
  - **It is Less Evolved and Organized than the Dense Physical and Etheric Vital Bodies** — we having acquired it *two Creative Periods* later than the dense physical body.
  - **It Interpenetrates the Physical and Vital Bodies** — and extends out beyond them forming a more or less sharply defined *ovoid* or egg-shaped cloud or *aura*. It, in turn, is interpenetrated by the mental or mind body.

- **The Force-Matter of the Desire Body is in Constant, Rapid Motion** — circulating through ***all points*** within the Astral aura, much like an electron in its atomic or molecular orbital. As a result of this circulation, we “see” or perceive in the Astral or Desire World with this ***body as a whole*** rather than with localized centers of sense perception as with the physical and vital bodies.
- **The Desire Body Contains Force Centers or Vortices** — which correspond with the etheric Chakras but are not necessarily coincident with them. The ***main vortex*** is located in the vicinity of the ***liver***.
- **There is a Turnover or Exchange of Force-Matter of the Desire Body with That of the Planetary Desire World** — which is considerably ***more rapid*** than in the case of the physical and vital bodies with the substances of the Planetary Physical World.
- **For this Reason We are Vulnerable to the Influences of Our Psychic Environment** — ***assimilating emotional forms*** (or “*desire elementals*”) generated in that environment which resonate to ***like vibrations*** in our own desire bodies. It is advisable, then, for us to purify and raise the vibrations of our desire body so as to be invulnerable to the negative and destructive “*desire elementals*” which surround us in the Astral World, and to assimilate only constructive and inspirational emotional forms.
- **This Points Out Again the Importance of the Proper Development, Purification and Mastery of the Desire Body** — and to achieve this goal, the ***concrete mind*** must first be ***freed*** as much as possible ***from all desire body influences***. In other words, we must learn to control our emotions, and this control is to be exercised by the ***rational mind*** and a sound, well-balanced physical body. This is an important goal of spiritual alchemy.
- **The Colors and Patterns of the Desire Body** — are indicative of its ***degree of development*** and organization, and of the emotional, mental and spiritual ***state*** of the individual.
- **The Functions of the Astral or Desire Body are Threefold** —
  - **It is the Driving Force which Impels Us to Action** — and as such, must be the ***servant and not the master*** of the concrete mind.
  - **It Serves as the Interface or Link between the Mental Organization and the Etheric Vital Body** — just as the vital body, through the etheric Chakras, transmits psychic forces and vitality (*Prana*) to the physical brain and nervous system and the glandular chain.

- **It is the Vehicle of Consciousness of the Ego in the Astral or Desire World** — during sleep or conscious work in the Astral World, and after the death and disintegration of the compound physical body.
- **During Sleep, the Desire Body Separates from the Compound Physical Body** — remaining *connected* to the latter through the *silver cord*. In this manner, the physical and etheric bodies are revitalized and rejuvenated during sleep, since emotional, as well as mental, activity *depletes and breaks down* the compound physical body. For this reason, sleep during the early hours of the night in fresh air is most effective for physical body rejuvenation, because the *supply* of vital energy or *Prana* accumulated during the daylight hours is still ample.
- **After the Death of the Compound Physical Body** — the silver cord is *severed*, and the astral or desire body serves then serves as the outer *vehicle of consciousness* of the Ego in the Desire World, taking on the form of the former physical body.
- **The Degree of Conscious Perception of the Ego in the Desire World** — either during sleep or in the postmortem stage, depends upon the extent of the *development and organization* of the astral or desire body. Memory of experiences in the Astral World depends upon impressions made on the physical brain via the etheric vital body. *Dreams* are one form of such impressions.

# THE NATURE OF EMOTIONS, FEELINGS AND DESIRES

- EMOTIONS (“E-MOTION-S”) ARE ACTUALIZED THOUGHTS (i.e., *thoughts put into “motion”*).
- THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF OUR EMOTIONS IS TO IMPEL US TO ACTION.
- THE ASTRAL OR DESIRE WORLD IS ONE OF DUALITY AND CONFLICT IN ITS LOWER ASPECTS; AND OF JOY, EXUBERANCE AND MAGNANIMITY IN ITS HIGHER ASPECTS.
- OUR EMOTIONS, FEELINGS AND DESIRES ARE CHARACTERIZED BY THE FOLLOWING DUALITIES:
  - Attraction or Repulsion (i.e., *synergy or mutual support versus antagonism or mutual destructiveness*);
  - Interest or Indifference (i.e., *concern versus apathy*);
  - Pleasant or Unpleasant (i.e., *gratifying or distressing*).
- THESE EMOTIONS, FEELINGS AND DESIRES ARE EXPRESSED THROUGH OUR ASTRAL OR DESIRE BODY (*the seat of our emotional life*).
  - The astral or desire body is specialized or organized from the seven energy levels of the planetary astral or desire world.
  - It is a kaleidoscope of changing colors and patterns that reflect our emotional state of the moment.
  - We can sense another person’s emotional state indirectly through feeling (“*claircognizance*”) of their astral aura; or perceive the aura directly through astral clairvoyance (i.e., *actually “seeing” the colors and patterns of their astral body*).

## THE SEVEN LEVELS OF THE ASTRAL (DESIRE OR EMOTIONAL) WORLD

### *A* Heavenly Experience

7. **Soul Power**—“My God! My God! How you glorify me!”  
++++++
6. **Soul Light**—“My God! My God! Why have you forsaken me?”  
-+++++
5. **Soul Life**—We become “unbuttoned” (ungeknöpft).  
--++++

### *A* Limbo Experience

4. **Borderland**—Feelings of interest or indifference are at play at this level.  
---+++

### *A* Purgatorial Experience

3. **Wishes**—My wishes may clash with yours.  
----++
2. **Impressionability**—My perception of an event may differ substantially from yours.  
-----+
1. **Passion and Base Desire**—I may find your self-indulgence very repugnant.  
-----

## MUSIC TO EXPRESS THE SEVEN EMOTIONAL LEVELS

### LEVEL 1 — PASSION AND BASE DESIRES:

*Public Enemy: Fear of a Black Planet* — “Brothers Gonna Work It Out”

*Body Count* — “Voodoo”

*Deicide Legion* — “Satan Spawn, the Caco Daemon”

*Holst: The Planets* — “Mars the Bringer of War”

*Orff: Carmina Burana* — “O Fortuna”

*Mussorgsky* — “Night on Bald Mountain”

### LEVEL 2 — IMPRESSIONABILITY:

*Dukas* — “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice”

*Debussy: Trois Nocturnes* — “Fêtes”

*Bartok: Music for Strings, Percussion and Celeste* — Part IV, *allegro molto*

*Gershwin* — “An American in Paris”

*Shostakovich* — Polka from “Age of Gold” Ballet

*Spike Jones* — “William Tell Overture”

### LEVEL 3 — WISHES:

*Khachaturian: Sparticus Suite #3* — “Dance of Phrygia and the Parting Scene”

*Eddie Pierson’s Band* — “Bill Bailey Won’t You Please Come Home”

*Scott Joplin* — “The Easy Winners”

*Spike Jones* — “All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth”

### LEVEL 4 — BORDERLAND:

*Satie: Trois Gymnopédies* — “Lent et douloureux”

*Rameau: Les Paladins Suite* — “Menuet lent”

*Ravel* — “Bolero”

### LEVEL 5 — SOUL LIFE:

*Original Dukes of Dixieland* — “Darktown Strutters Ball”

*Beethoven: Symphony #8 in F major, Op. 93* — First movement, *allegro vivace e con brio*

*Enesco: Romanian Rhapsody #1, Op. 11*

*Schubert: Symphony #5 in B major, D. 485* — First movement, *allegro*

*Tchaikovsky: Symphony #4 in F minor, Op. 36* — Fourth movement, *allegro con fuoco*

### LEVEL 6 — SOUL LIGHT:

*Tchaikovsky: Symphony #5 in E minor, Op. 64* — Second movement, *andante cantabile  
con alcuna licenza*

*Albanoni: Adagio in G minor*

*J. S. Bach: Air on a ‘G’ String, BWV 1068*

*Barber: Adagio for Strings, from String Quartet in G minor, Op. 11*

*Beethoven: String Quartet #15 in A minor, Op. 132* — First movement, *assai sostenuto*

*Tchaikovsky: String Quartet #1 in D major, Op. 11* — Second movement, *andante  
cantabile*

### LEVEL 7 — SOUL POWER:

*Brahms: Symphony #1 in C minor, Op. 68* — First movement, *un poco sostenuto*

*J. S. Bach: Toccata and Fugue in F major, S. 540*

*Hanson: Symphony #2 (Romantic), Op. 30* — Third movement finale, *allegro con brio*

*Tchaikovsky: Symphony #6 in B minor, Op. 74* — Third movement, *allegro molto vivace*

*Mozart: Symphony #41 (Jupiter) in C major, K 551* — Fourth movement, *molto allegro*


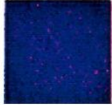
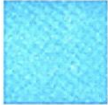
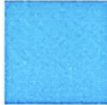
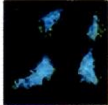
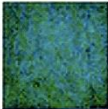

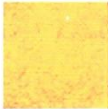
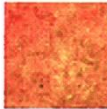

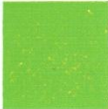
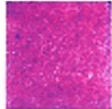

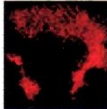

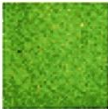
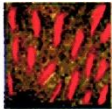

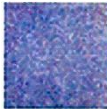
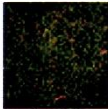
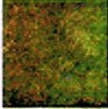


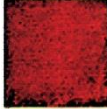



# Color Plates

*Of the Hues which Correspond  
to Various Emotional States  
Reflected in the Desire Body*

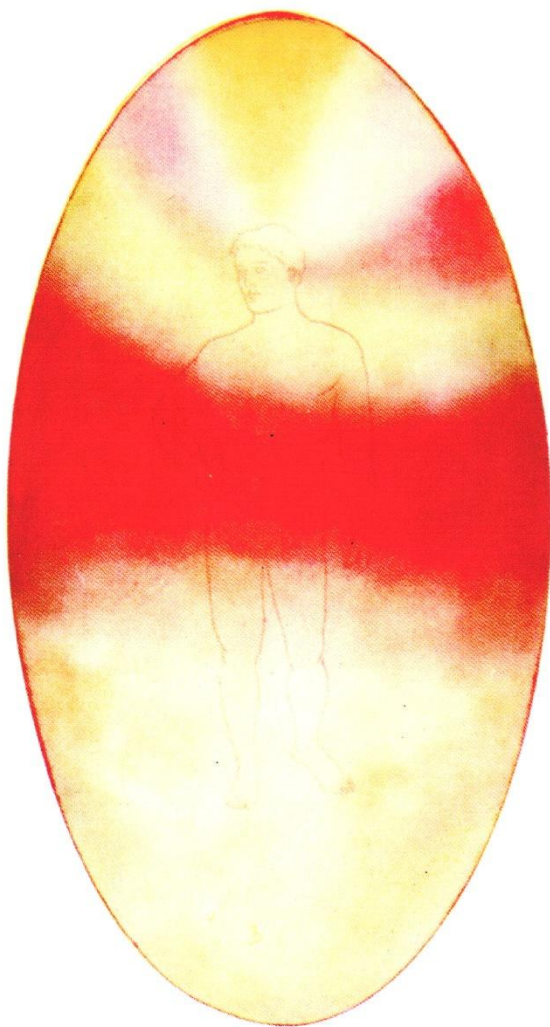
*According to C. W. Leadbeater  
in "Man Visible and Invisible"*

# ASTRAL COLORS

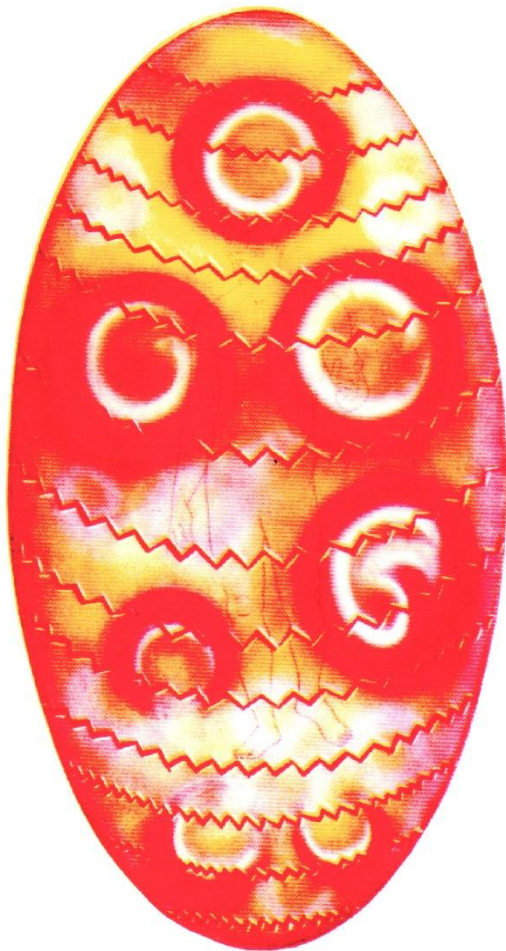
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
1.	High Spirituality. —	1. Devotion mixed with Affection. —	1. Devotion to a Noble Ideal. —	1. Pure Religious Feeling. —	1. Selfish Religious Feeling. —
2.	Religious Feeling tinged with Fear. —	2. Highest Intellect. —	2. Strong Intellect. —	2. Low type of Intellect. —	2. Pride. —
3.	Sympathy. —	3. Love for Humanity. —	3. Unselfish Affection. —	3. Selfish Affection. —	3. Pure Affection. —
4.	Adaptability. —	4. Jealousy. —	4. Deceit. —	4. Fear. —	4. Depression. —
5.	Selfishness. —	5. Avarice. —	5. Anger. —	5. Sensuality. —	5. Malice. —



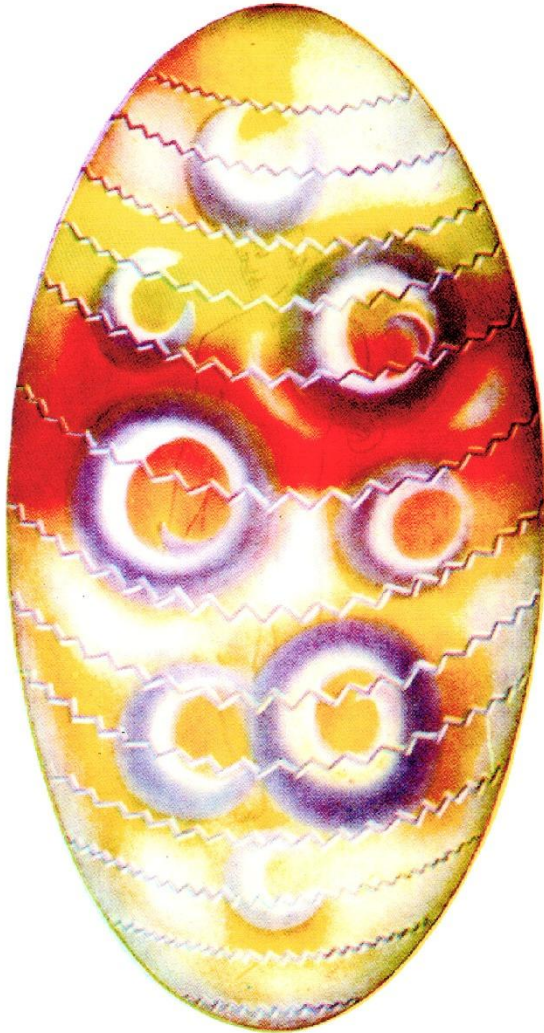
**Astral or Desire Body of a Savage**



**Astral or Desire Body of an Average Man**



## A Sudden Rush of Affection



## **A Sudden Rush of Devotion**

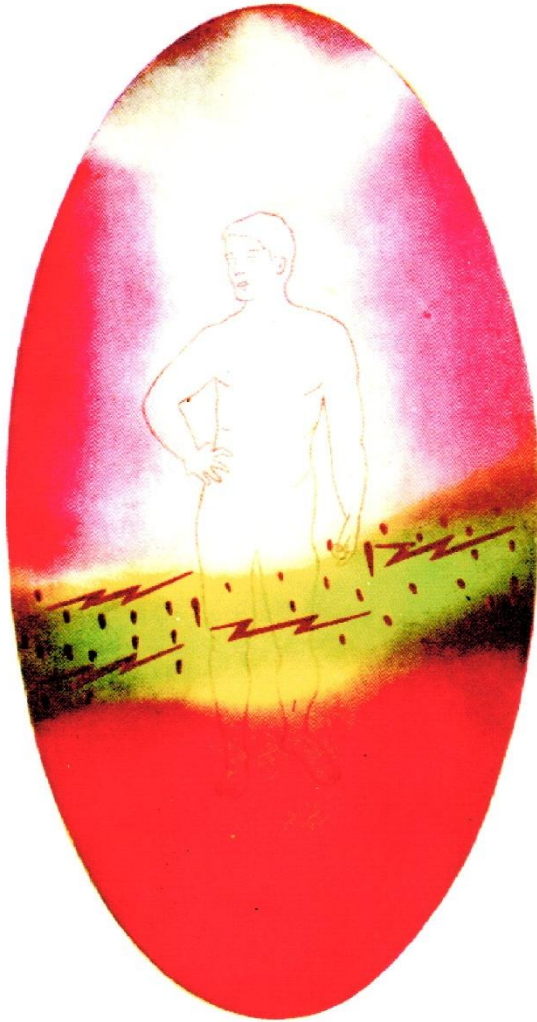


**Intense Anger**



## A Shock of Fear





## The Average Man in Love



## **The Irritable Man**



## The Miser



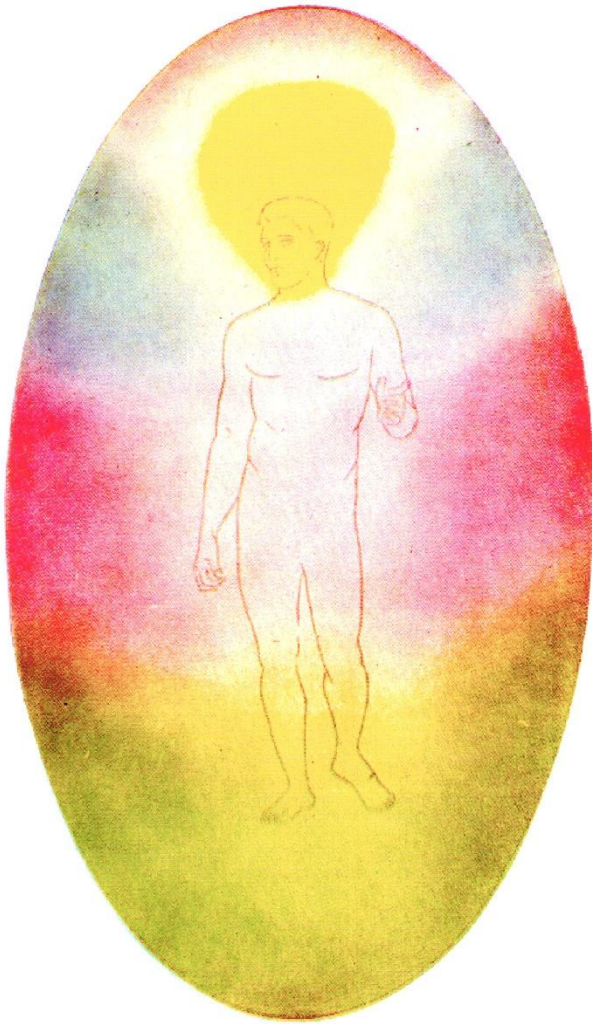
## Deep Depression



## The Devotional Type



## The Scientific Type



**Astral Body of the Developed Man**

**Part 2**  
*Sight, the Most Excellent  
of Senses*



## THE PATH TO KNOWLEDGE OF THE REAL

Know the innermost Spiritual Self—the ONE LIFE—as **Lord of the Chariot**, the physical body as the **Chariot** itself; know the Inner Intuitive knower to be the **Charioteer** and the concrete mind as the **Reins**.

The senses and emotions, they say, are the **Horses**, the inner and outer sense-objects the **Path on which they run**. The innermost Spiritual Self—the ONE LIFE—united to senses and mind is said by the wise to be the **Experiencer**.

He who is without intuitive judgment and whose mind is not constantly controlled, his senses and emotions become unmanageable like the vicious horses of a charioteer.

But he who has intuitive judgment, whose mind is ever held firm, his senses and emotions are controllable like the good horses of a charioteer.

He who is without intuitive judgment and is of uncontrolled mind, ever impure, he does not reach the ultimate goal but wanders in the Ocean of the World.

But he who has intuitive judgment and is of controlled mind, ever pure, he attains that goal of Conscious Immortality.

The man or woman who has intuitive judgment as his or her Charioteer, and the mind as Reins, gains the End of the Road. That is the Supreme Abode of the All-Pervading Spirit of the ONE LIFE—the Fire of the Father.

Higher than inertial matter and form are the active working senses.

Higher than these senses are the subtle objects of sense—the thought-forms projected by the imagination onto the desire nature.

Higher than those objects is the concrete mind (which projected them).

Higher than the concrete mind is the Intuition—the Inner Knower—Root Earth.

Higher than the Intuition is the Great World Soul—the Divine Cosmic Pattern or World Order—the 'Great Self'—the Divine Spirit, Son/Daughter—Root Air.

Higher than this 'Great Self' is the Unmanifest Chaos, the First Matter of the Absolute, the Divine Mother or Celestial Virgin—the Matrix or Mother-Space of the Objective World—Root Water.

Higher than this Unmanifest Chaos is the ONE LIFE—the pure Spirit of the innermost SELF, the Peaceful I AM, the Silent Witness—the Divine Father—Root Fire.

Than this ONE LIFE there is nothing higher. He is the End, the Pillar marking the boundary of the Great Void of the Absolute—He, God, the Ultimate and Supreme Goal.

Hidden in all things, this ONE LIFE is yet not visible. He is to be seen, however, by the keen and subtle inner vision of those who are seers of the REAL.

The wise should dissolve all of the senses (with their inner and outer objects) in the concrete mind, and that mind then dissolved in the intuitive Inner Knower. That intuitional 'Knowledge Self' he should dissolve in the Divine Cosmic Pattern of the 'Great Self', and that dissolved in the Silent Witness of the innermost Spirit of the 'Peaceful Self'—the ONE LIFE.

**The Kathopanishad: Chapter III, Verses 3-13**

## SIGHT, THE MOST EXCELLENT OF SENSES

- **Five Components are Involved in Actual “Seeing”** —
  - **The Instrument** — the Eye;
  - **The Organ** — the Brain;
  - **The Mind (Manas)** — which discriminates and sorts out the signals from these first two;
  - **The Intuition (Buddhi)** — The Inner Knower which evaluates the information transmitted by the mind;
  - **The Ego (Ahankâra)** — The real Inner Intelligence, the sense of “I” or the individual and separate Ego, the illusionary (*Mayavic*) Self.
- **All of these Components of “Seeing” are “Processes in the Mind-Stuff (Chitta)”** — the force-matter of the Thought World.
  - **Together, They Constitute Antahkarana** — the “***Internal or Causal Instrument***” which initially serves as the **link** between the Higher Ego and the Personality, and ultimately between the Ego and the Divine Spark or Monad—the real inner CORE-SELF.
- **There are Two Mechanisms for Physical Vision** — One is passive and the other is active.
  - **With the Passive Mechanism** — energy patterns (*the Passive Agency*) in the form of light and etheric “atoms,” which emanate from the object-to-be-perceived and which carry information about its form are focused by the refracting media of the physical eye onto the retina (*especially onto the Fovea Centralis Retinae in the Macula Lutea, the spot of the most acute reception*), and the pattern is transmitted by the light sensitive cells (*Rods and Cones*) via the Optic Nerve to the physical brain.
  - **With the Active Mechanism** — which may be likened to a radar system, an energy beam (*the “Intellectual Ray”*) emitted by the Optic Nerve illuminates and penetrates the object-to-be-perceived, mingles with the energy patterns emitted by the object, is reflected back and focused by the **etheric lens** of the “third eye.” The energy pattern which is carried is impressed directly upon the **Optic Disc** (*the “blind spot” or “white spot”*) and transmitted by the Optic Nerve to the brain.
  - **The “Intellectual Ray” (the Active Agency)** — quite possibly is conducted by the **Hyaloid Canal**, ordinarily considered as a vestigial remnant of a fetal blood vessel that supplied the Lens during

the prenatal period. The canal is filled with a fluid which differs from the vitreous humor that fills the interior of the eyeball. The Active Mechanism is responsible for "Ethereic Vision," that form of clairvoyance which constitutes perception in one or more of the four levels of the Etheric Region of the Physical World.

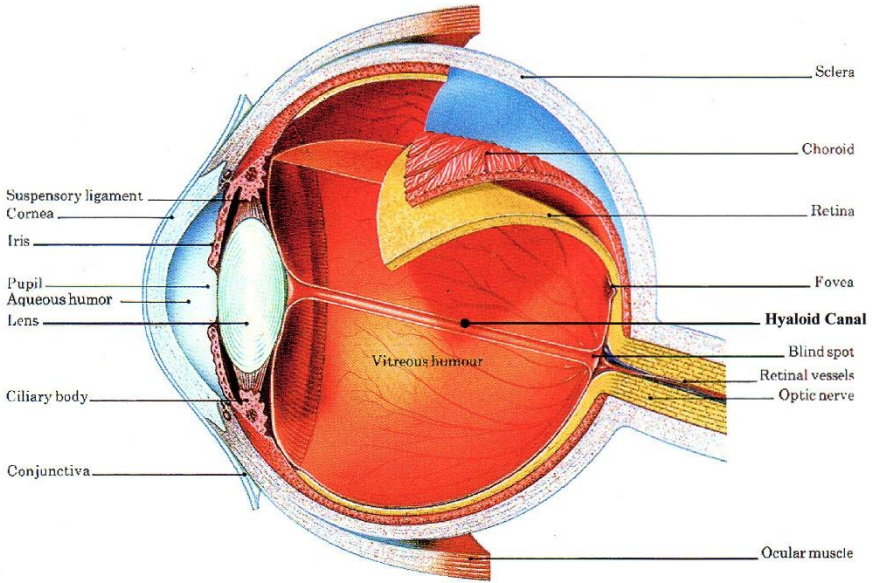
- **The Three Humors (Refractive Media) and Seven Tunics of the Physical Eye Make Up a Complete Decad** — a miniature world symbolized by the ten circles of the Kabbalistic Sephirothal Tree, and by the ten dots in the Pythagorean Tetraktys—three "hidden" (*the Causal Triad*) and seven "revealed" (*the Seven Planetary Spirits*).
- **The Three Humors are** — (1) the ***Aqueous or Watery Humor*** (*the "Tasteless Fluid"*) which fills the Anterior Chamber, bathing the Cornea, Iris and Pupil; (2) the ***Glacialis or Icy Humor***—the Crystalline Lens (*the "Crystal"*); and (3) the ***Vitreous or Crystal-Like Humor***, a gelatinous fluid (*the "Sapphire"*) which fills the interior of the Eyeball, bathing the Retina and the posterior surface of the Lens.
- **The Seven Tunics (Gray Describes Three) are** — (1) the ***Retina*** (*the "Net"*), the inner light-sensitive layer of the Eyeball; (2) the ***Choroid*** or Tunica Vasculosa Oculi (*the "Membrane"*), the middle vascular layer of the Eyeball; (3) the ***Sclera*** or Tunica Sclerotica (*the "Hard"*), the white outer coat of the Eye; (4) the ***Iris*** (*"Dishlike Web," "Breadlike" or "Rainbow"*), the pigmented ring that varies the diameter of the Pupil; (5) the ***Tunica Uvea*** (*"Grapelike"*), the pigmented epithelium at the rear surface of the Iris; (6) the ***Cornea*** (*the "Horny"*), the transparent membrane which covers the curved anterior part of the Eyeball that helps to focus the light source; and (7) the ***Ciliary Bodies*** or Ligamentum Ciliare (*the "Conjoining"*), which connect the Choroid with the ligaments attached to the Lens.
- **The White Spot (the "Blind Spot" or Optic Disc)** — has been considered by Kabbalists as the Keter or Crown of the ***miniature world*** of the Eye.
- **Astral and Mental "Sight" (i.e., the "Mind's Eye")** — are higher orders of clairvoyance and claircognizance than etheric vision, which utilizes the active mechanism of physical vision.
- **Ordinary Physical and Etheric Vision** — are based upon highly organized and localized organs of perception specialized from chemical and etheric physical matter.
- **Astral and Mental Vision (or Perception)** — are ***increasingly less localized*** and more symmetrically distributed over the ovoid surface of the Astral and Mental auras. The Astral and Mental bodies contain ***force-centers or vortices*** which function as receptors for perception of energy patterns. However, the force-matter of

these bodies ***circulates so rapidly*** through every point within their auras, and, additionally, is in such rapid interchange with the “substances” of the Planetary Astral and Thought Worlds, that ***perception is virtually with these bodies-as-a-whole.***

- **The Seven Levels of the Thought World are Divided into Two Regions** — the ***Region of Concrete Thought*** and the ***Region of Abstract Thought***.
  - **The Region of Concrete Thought** — consists of ***the lower four levels*** of the Thought World. The force-matter of this Region is of a sufficiently low order of vibration that it may be ***molded into Thought-Forms***.
  - **The Region of Abstract Thought** — consists of the ***upper three levels*** of the Thought World. The force-matter of this Region is of such a high order of vibration that it ***cannot*** be molded into Thought-Forms but, rather, serves as the ***medium for Germinal Ideas*** impressed from the two higher worlds of Intuition (*Buddhi or Life Spirit*) and Will (*Atma or Divine Spirit*), much like the two highest ethers of the Physical World correlate to the Astral and Thought Worlds.
  - **The Mid-Level (4th) of the Thought World** — has been called the ***“Region of Archetypal Forces”*** because it is at this level that Germinal Ideas begin to impress as Thought-Forms or Archetypes of Form, “Universal Vitality,” and Desires and Emotions. This level is of critical importance, also, because (1) it is the location of the ***Focus of Mind*** and the ***proper location of the Human Mind***; and (2) it is the Location of the ***True Memory of Nature*** or the ***Akasic Records***—the medium of the Space-Time Continuum in which ***all events which have occurred*** are impressed more-or-less permanently.
  - **The Thought World is Preeminently a Realm of Tone** - so that ***fine music inspires us*** because it reminds us of our TRUE HOME.
  - **Persons with Adequately Developed Mental Clairvoyance** — can ***“read” the Akasic Records*** much like we play back a videotape, viewing and experiencing past events.
- **The Mental or Mind Body is Currently Just a Thought-Form** — a more-or-less organized cloud of force-matter specialized from the Planetary Region of Concrete Thought. As such, it serves as our organ of concrete thought much as the physical brain serves as the organ of physical vision and the biocomputer which registers thoughts and emotions for alert waking consciousness in the Physical World.
- **The Mental Body Interpenetrates the Lower Bodies** — as do the astral and etheric bodies their coarser counterparts. Like the as-

tral body, the mental body is ovoid in shape with most of its matter concentrated within the physical body—attracted by astral or desire matter which in turn is strongly attracted by the physical body.

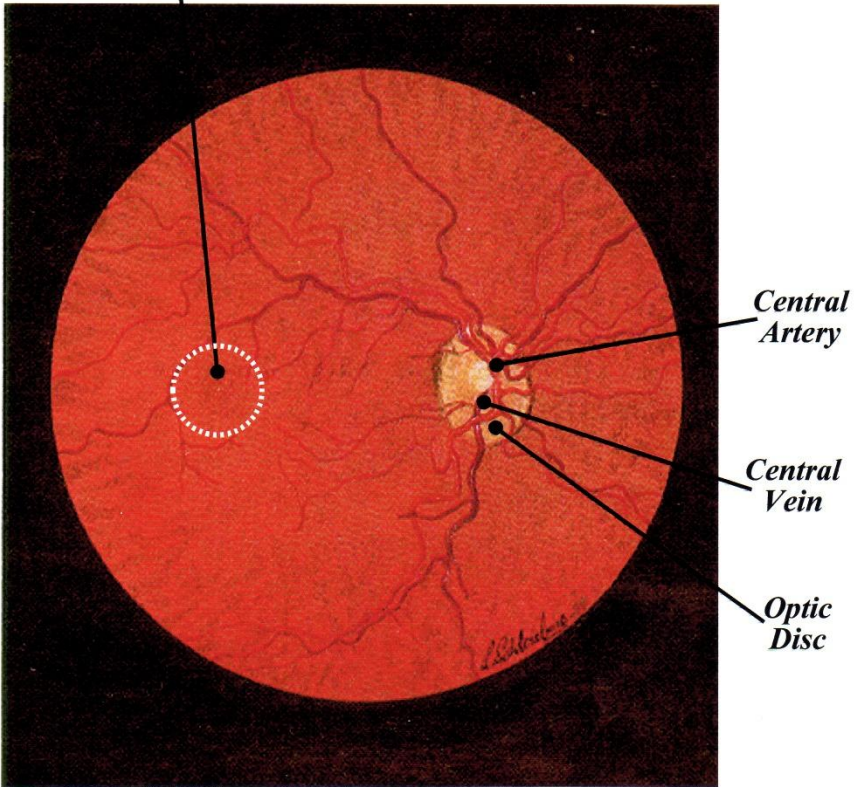
- **The Lower Vibratory Aspects of the Mental Body are Strongly Attracted by Desire-Stuff** — and this part of it has been appropriately called “*Kama Manas*” or ***desire mind***, because of its entanglement with the desire nature. This aspect of the concrete mind predominates in most people.
- **The Higher Vibratory Aspects of the Mental Body Correlate with the Causal Body** — the ***vehicle of abstract thought***, the seat of our conscience and individuality (*the “Human Spirit”*), and the outer vesture of the higher Spiritual Ego—our “***Higher Self***.” This part of the mind has been called “*Higher Manas*,” the ***intuitive mind or higher intellect***.
- **The Creative Power of Thought** — involves (1) an ***act of will*** (*from the Atmic or highest aspect of Spirit*) which calls forth (2) a ***concept or germinal idea*** which, in turn, impresses upon (3) the concrete mind or mental body to ***create a thought-form***. The thought-form attracts (4) astral matter to ***create a desire elemental*** which (5) ***impels action*** in the Physical World. This activity may be either creative or destructive.
- **We are Currently Learning to Use Our Minds to Consciously Create with Mineral Essence** — that is, with organic and inorganic ***chemical matter***. In the next Creative Period, we will learn to create with ***vital etheric substance***: i.e., the ***pathways for the vital force***.
- **To The Best Way to Develop the Concrete Mind or Mental Body is** — through ***disciplines of logic*** such as the physical sciences and mathematics, through artistic and other aesthetic creative activities, and through the ***practice of concentration***—particularly upon noble ideas.
- **This Raises the Vibrations of the Mental Body** — making it more luminous, organizing it into a more definitive structure, and ***freeing it from the influences of the desire nature***. In so doing, we will become invulnerable to the negative and destructive thought-forms and desire elementals created by others. These ***abound in our psychic environment*** and are normally assimilated by us to manifest similar destructive tendencies in ourselves.



# Diagram of the Eye

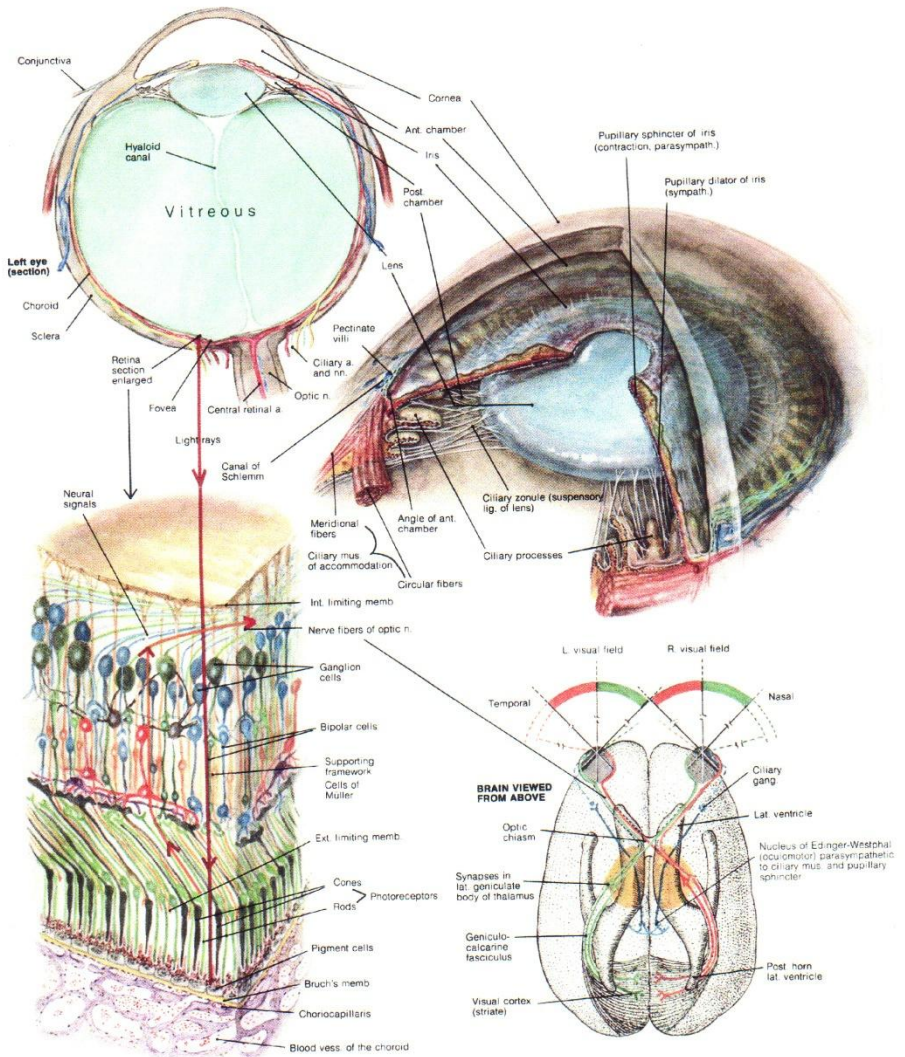
*Showing the Hyaloid Canal*

*Macula and Fovea*



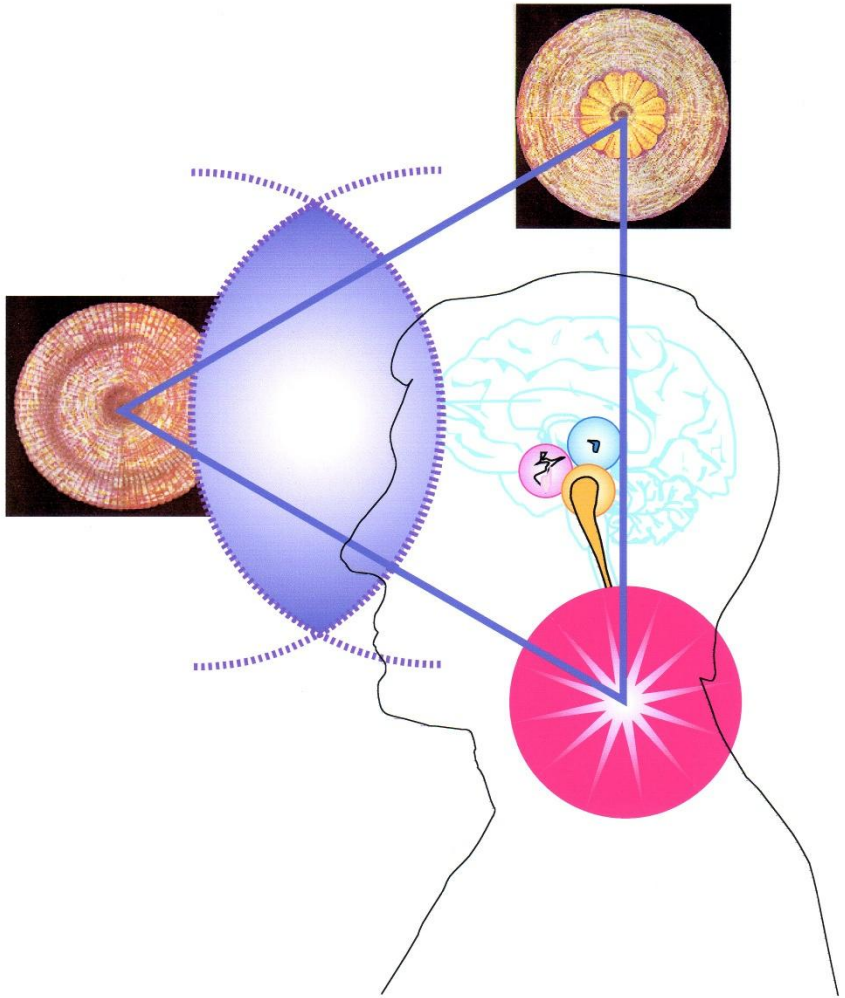
# ***Photo of Retina***

***Showing the Optic Disc and  
the Fovea in the Macula Lutea***

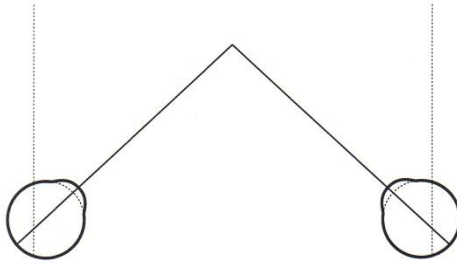


# VARIOUS FACETS OF THE EYE AND THE PROCESS OF VISION

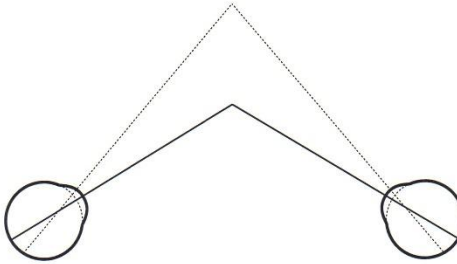




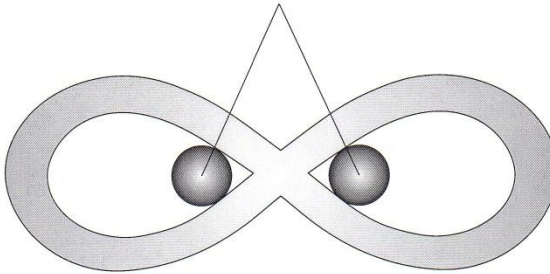
# *The Opening of the Third Eye*



*When the eyes are focused upon an object in normal vision, the optic discs face straight ahead.*



*When the eyes are focused upon a point close to the face—such as the tip of the nose, the optic discs may be aimed at an object located at a normal viewing distance.*



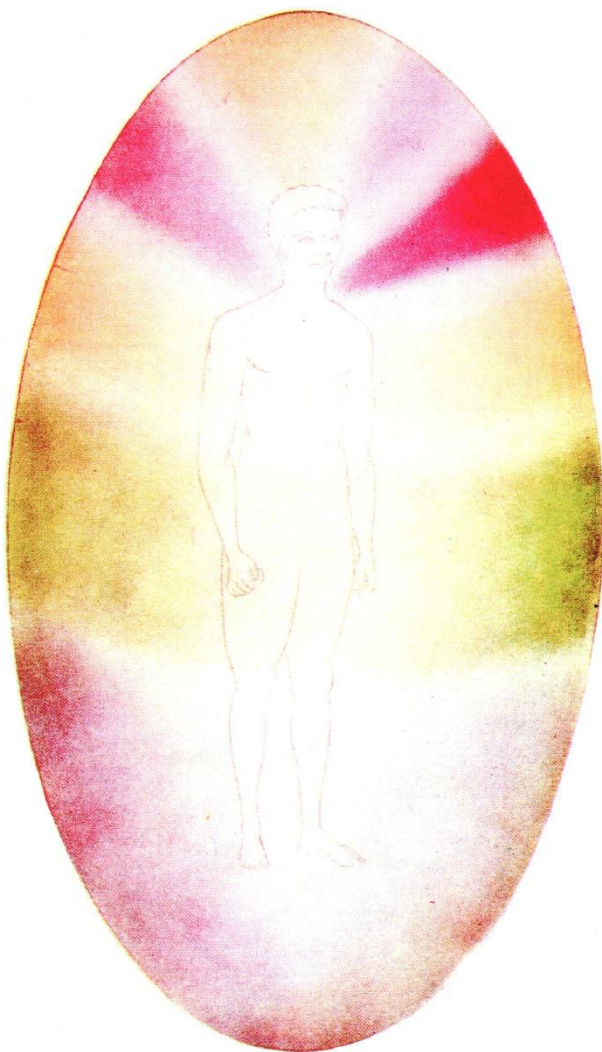
*Radiations reflected back from an object illuminated by the "intellectual ray" originating from the optic discs pass through the etheric lens related to the Brow (Ajna) Chakra Center.*

## **FOCUSING OF THE OPTIC DISCS IN ETHERIC VISION**

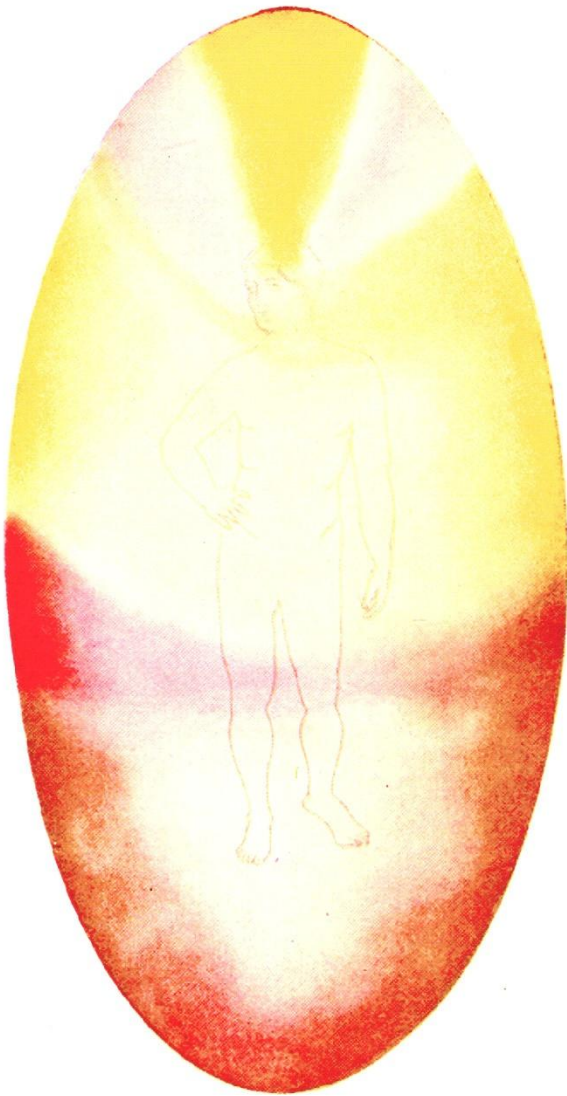
# Color Plates

*Of the Mental Body of  
Persons in Various Stages  
of Intellectual and  
Spiritual Development*

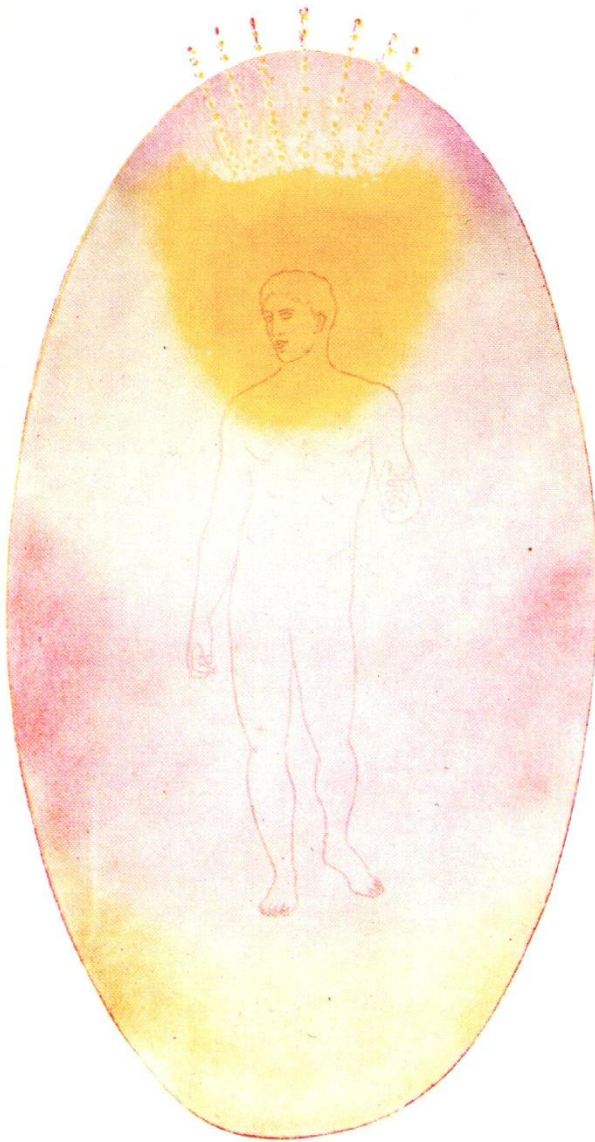
*According to C. W. Leadbeater  
in "Man Visible and Invisible"*



MENTAL BODY OF A PRIMITIVE MAN

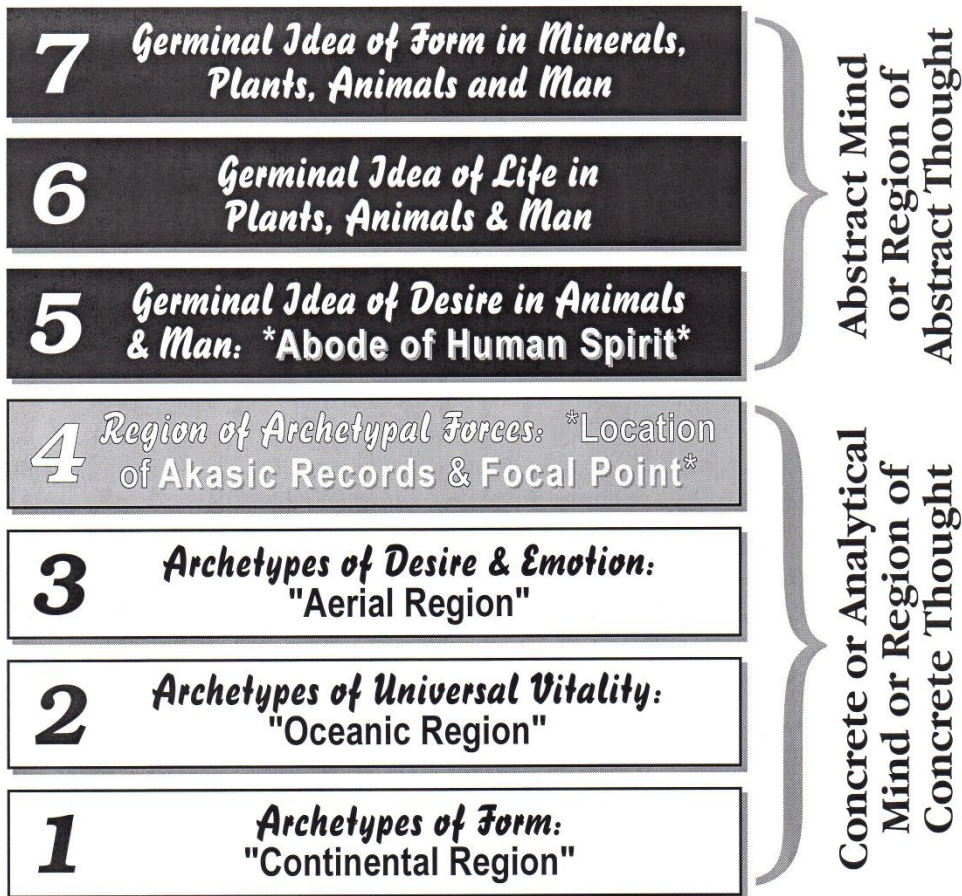


MENTAL BODY OF AN AVERAGE MAN

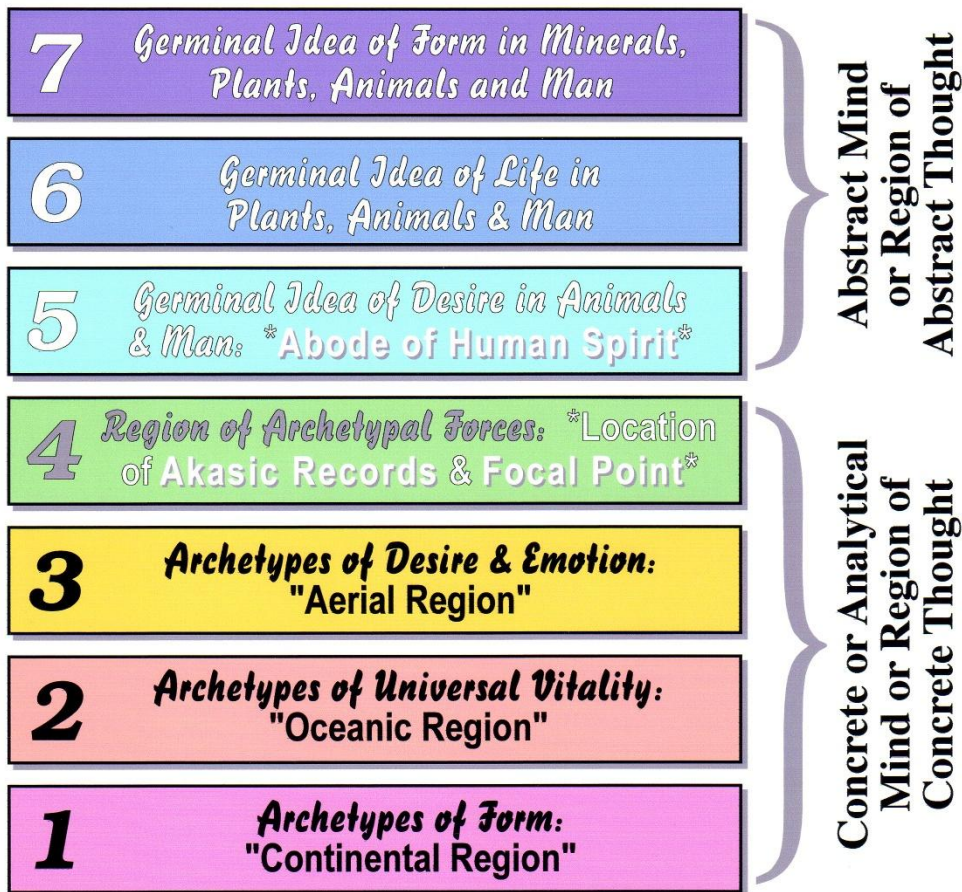


MENTAL BODY OF A DEVELOPED MAN

# The Seven Levels of the Mind or World of Thought



# The Seven Levels of the Mind or World of Thought





## **Part 3**

*Healing and Disease in  
Light of Our Subtle Bodies*

## THE PRESERVATION OF A THING

*In order that a thing may be preserved and defended from injury, it is necessary that first of all its enemy should be known, so that it may be shielded therefrom, and that it may not be hurt and corrupted by it, in its substance, virtue, force, or in any other way suffer loss. A good deal depends upon this, then, that the enemy of all natural things be recognized; for who can guard himself against loss and adverse chance if he is ignorant of his enemy? Surely, no one. It is therefore necessary that such enemy should be known. There are many enemies; and it is just as necessary to know the bad as the good. Who, in fact, can know the good without a knowledge of the evil? No one. No one who has never been sick knows how great a treasure health is. Who knows what joy is, that was never sad or sorrowful? And who knows rightly about what God is, who knows nothing about the devil? Wherefore since God has made known to us the enemy of our soul, that is, the devil, He also points out to us the enemy of our life, that is, death, which is the enemy of our body, of our health, the enemy of medicine, and of all natural things. He has made known this enemy to us and also how and by what means we must escape him. For as there is no disease against which there has not been created and discovered a medicine which cures and drives it away, so there is always one thing placed over against another—one water over against another, one stone over against another, one mineral over against another, one poison over against another, one metal over against another—and the same in many other matters, all of which it is not necessary to recount here.*

*The difference between the two medical arts—the heavenly and the worldly—consists in this: the adepts and non-adepts of worldly medicine are subject to the order and forces of nature, while those of heavenly medicine can dispense with herbs and the stars. . . . All active virtues come from the word of God, and His words have such power that all nature with its forces cannot accomplish as much as a single one of His words. This divine power is the heavenly medicine; it accomplishes what no natural force can accomplish. . . . There is no field on earth in which heavenly medicine grows or lies hidden, other than the resurrected flesh or the “new body” of man; only in the “new body” have all its words force and efficacy here on earth. This heavenly medicine works according to the will of the man of the “new birth”; in him lie all the active virtues. For it does not operate in the mortal body, but only in the eternal body.*

**Paracelsus**

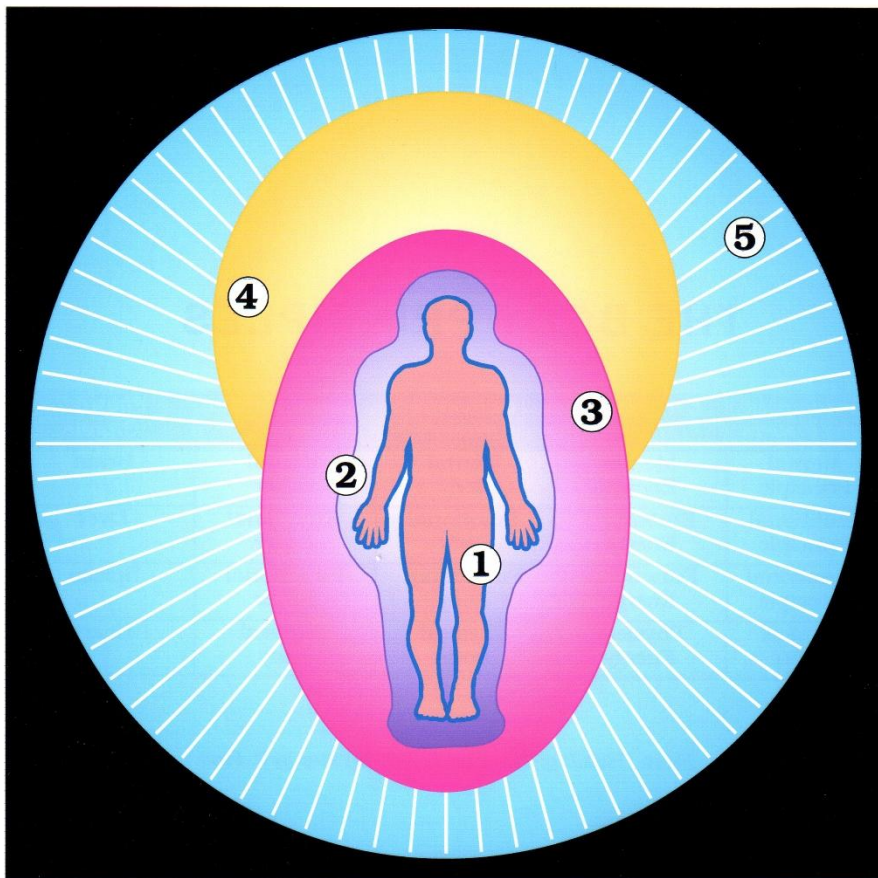
## HEALING AND DISEASE IN LIGHT OF OUR SUBTLE BODIES

- **The Root Cause of All Disease** — is the *inhibition* of the flow of the Life Force from the Higher Spiritual Ego. Some of this is ***Karmic*** in nature; some the result of ***present life*** conditioning.
- **Most of this Blockage of the “Soul-Life”** — occurs in the etheric ***Vital Body*** and the ***Desire (Astral) Body***; only a relatively small amount occurs in the ***Mental Body***. Healing can occur when the obstruction is removed.
- **Negative Karma is often “Worked-out” or “Burnt-up”** — i.e., ***culminates***, as a disease of the Physical Body; such malady may be regarded as the final payment of a “spiritual debt” to disencumber the Ego—a ***liberation*** of sorts.
- **Many Physical Body Health Problems** — are the result of ***over-stressing this mechanism***, which has developed as a vehicle of response to Physical World stimuli, ***by forcing it to respond*** to the more subtle and subjective vibrations of the Desire and Thought Worlds.
- **Other Physical Ailments Derive from Disharmony** — in the ***collective psyche*** of Mankind-as-a-whole, and of the Planetary Life.
- **A True Healer must be able to Draw upon the Power of His or Her Own Soul (i.e. Spiritual Ego)** — to establish a rapport with the patient, and to gather and radiate the appropriate energies.
- **To be Effective, the Healer must First** — ***harmonize*** and ***organize*** his or her own ***Vital*** and ***Desire Bodies***. This will encourage a beneficial adjustment of the patient’s subtle bodies, thereby facilitating the healing process.
- **Harmony and Proper Development of the Healer’s Mind Body and Thought Processes** — are likewise required for effective ***mental healing***. Thus the old maxim: ***“Physician Heal Thyself.”***
- **The Ultimate Cause of All Disease is Incomprehensible to Us at Present** — because it is rooted in the imperfection of Deity Itself: the Greater Life of which we are all a part, and which Itself is evolving and striving toward perfection.
- **All Disease is a Result of Disharmony** — between the ***Life*** (or ***subjective***) side and the ***Form*** (or ***objective***) side of Being.

- **This Disharmony Exists in All Four Kingdoms of Nature** — the Mineral, Vegetable, Animal and Human. It manifests as *dysfunction, pain, congestion, putrefaction* or *corruption*, and *death*.
- **Disease, then, is a Process of Purification** — a *breaking up of crystallization*.
- **Healing and the Alleviation of Pain** — are the appropriate and peculiar functions of the Human Kingdom; and the ability to perform these functions derives from the potential *creative power of the Mind*.
- **To Develop His Power of Healing** — Man must correct certain erroneous notions and tendencies, namely:
  - **The Understanding of and Attitude toward** — the purpose of *pain* and *suffering*.
  - **The Struggle against the Natural Flow of the Life-Force** — i.e., he must learn *Non-Resistance to this Flow*.
  - **The Overemphasis of the Form-Side of His Nature**.
  - **The Attitude Toward and Understanding of Death** — as the *liberation* of the Spiritual Consciousness (*the Life-Side*) from an *outmoded and imperfect form*.
- **The Whole Process of Establishing Harmony** — between the Life-Side and the Form-Side of our nature is *governed by Karma*, the Law of Cause and Effect.
  - **Some Karmic Consequences must be Endured** — as malformation, disease, pain and suffering during a given life-cycle; others can be *eliminated or alleviated* through healing. Such consequences are the effects of *secondary causes*.
  - **The Understanding of Primary Causes** — must await our further Illumination and the awakening and development of our *Intuitive Faculty*.
- **The Psychic Causes Of Disease Fall into Four Categories** —
  - **Those Rooted in the Desire or Astral Body** — the major category, since the *consciousness* of the majority of present Humanity is *centered in the Emotional Life*. In this case, the Emotional Nature is positively polarized, i.e., is the active force or incentive, the determining factor in the life of the Personality.

- **Those Rooted in the Etheric Vital Body** — the *medium* for the reception and distribution of vitality or **Pranic energy**; and the **interface** between the Desire Nature and the dense Physical Body. The causes of diseases rooted in the Vital Body are due to **congestion** and **misalignment** of the force-centers or Chakras and individual energy circulatory pathways (*Nadis*) in the etheric “web.” This vehicle is, in general, **negatively polarized** relative to the Desire Body, i.e. the flow of the vital energies through it is **passive** and not under the conscious control of the Ego. Dysfunctions of the Vital Body can result in either **depletion** of energy or **overstimulation**, both of which can cause disease and ultimately death.
- **Those Originating in the Mental Body** — the vehicle of **concrete thought**. These causes arise from erroneous or negative thinking which generates **destructive thought-forms**. Such thought-forms react upon the Desire Body to express **negative emotions** or **desire elementals** which are one of the **most potent causes** of bodily enervation and, ultimately, maladies.
- **Those Arising out of the Life of the More Advanced Individual** — the **Intellectual**, the **Mystic**, the **Occultist** and the **Disciple (Chela)**.
- **The Healer must Ascertain the Course of Treatment after Consideration of the Following Factors** —
  - **The Main Location of the Cause** — i.e., **in which vehicle** it is primarily rooted.
  - **The Degree of Evolutionary Progress of the Patient** — to determine the **source and extent** of the difficulty.
  - **The Primary Nature of the Cause** — i.e., whether it is **(1)** psychic or subjective; **(2)** inherited or genetic i.e. Karmic; or **(3)** disharmony within the Collective or Planetary Psyche.
  - **The Method of Treatment** — i.e., whether by **(1)** conventional allopathic or homeopathic medical techniques; **(2)** infusion or re-direction of vital energies (*this requires integration of the healer’s inner resources*); **(3)** proper adjustment and realignment of the subtle bodies (*this requires the prerequisite knowledge and skill*); **(4)** evoking the power of the patient’s own Higher Ego (*this requires suitably advanced spiritual development of the patient*); or **(5)** in special cases, creating an occult connection (“*healing triangle*”) between the patient, the healer and a spiritual Adept, Master or “Invisible Helper.”

# *The Human Energy Fields*



- 1. The Gross Physical Body**
- 2. The Vital or Etheric Body**
- 3. The Astral or Desire (Emotional) Body**
- 4. The Mental Body**
- 5. The Causal Body – Receptacle of the Archetypal Patterns**

## THE BODY PRINCIPLES

<i>Principles and Powers</i>	<i>Energies</i>	<i>The Fourfold Body</i>	<i>Etheric Media</i>	<i>Physical Organs</i>
Mental Principle	Mental Energy	Mental Body	Mental Ether	Brain
Emotional Principle	Emotional Energy	Emotional Body	Emotional Ether	Liver
Functional Principle	Functional Energy	Functional Body	Functional Ether	Spleen
Physical Power	Physical Energy	Physical Body	Physical Body	Heart

*From "Healing: The Divine Art" by Manly P. Hall*

# THE EXPRESSION OF BODY PRINCIPLES

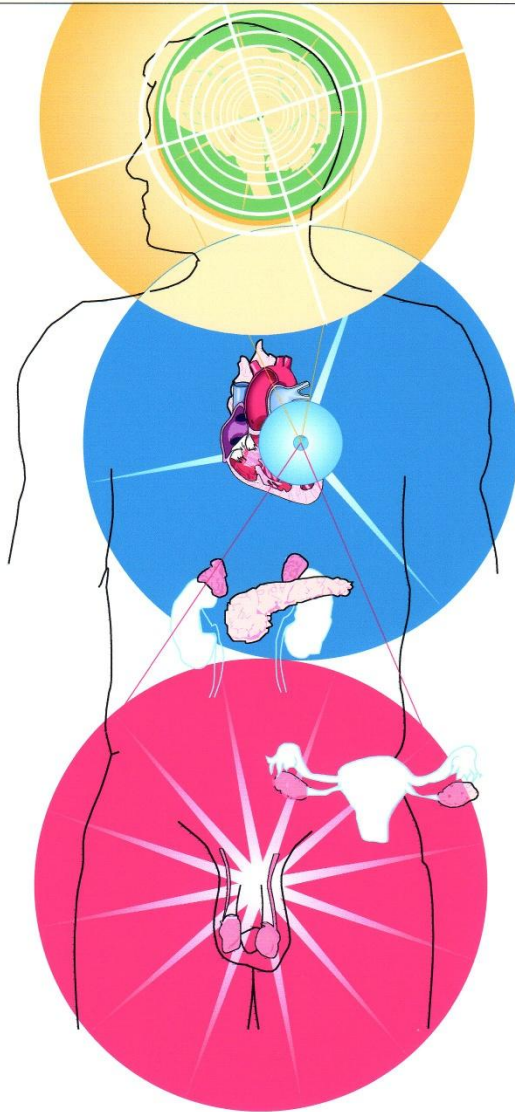
- **The Physical Body is an Inert Mineral Machine.**
- **It Serves as the Receptor and Transmitter through which are Expressed the **Vital, Emotional and Mental Principles** Originating in the Subtle Bodies that Correspond to these Principles.**
- **The Root Impulses which Originate from the **Subjective Spiritual Principles** of **WILL** (*Atma or BEING*) and **WISDOM** (*Buddhi, KNOWING or Intuition*) are **Impressed upon these Subtle Objective Bodies** through the **Causal Body**— Our Vehicle of Abstract Thought or **Germinal Ideas** (*the Spiritual Principle of Higher Manas, ACTIVITY or DOING*).**



*The ethers serve as the interfacial media which bind man's spiritual energies with the physical structures through which they operate.*

## THE FOUR ETHERS ARE:

- 1) ***The Physical Or Chemical Ether, The Form Binder*** — is the matrix for the entire chemical integrity of the physical body. It seems to **originate in the bone marrow**, and serves as the medium responsive to the archetype impressed within the **seed-atom of the physical body**—located in the apex of the **left ventricle of the heart**. The earth planet is its reservoir.
- 2) ***The Functional Or Vital Ether, The Energy Binder*** — is the **carrier of Pranic energy** or vital-force, which originates from the Sun. It vitalizes the entire nervous system and the glandular complex through the cerebrospinal chakras, which inturn energize the organs and muscles of the physical body. It seems to **originate in the spleen**, and is the medium for physical body restoration and healing. It is this **vital reservoir** which is depleted by destructive mental and emotional activity.
- 3) ***The Emotional Or Psychic Ether, The Impulse Binder*** — serves as the interface between the **desire or astral body** and physical consciousness. Its principle **center of origin is the liver**, and it flows through the arterial system of the body emitting a pale-rose light with a greenish fringe. This ether is **responsive to the emotional activity** of the individual, “registering every mood of the psychic nature.” **Lack of emotional balance and control** will enervate the physical body through the agency of this medium.
- 4) ***The Mental Or Intellectual Ether, The Thought Binder*** — serves as the interface between the **concrete mental body** and physical brain consciousness. Its physical center of origin appears to be within the **aura surrounding the pineal body** at the center of the brain. **Mind sets and other fixations and aberrations of our thinking process** will result in derangement, imbalance and depletion of this etheric medium, resulting ultimately in **insanity and mental senility**. It is described as having a golden glow.



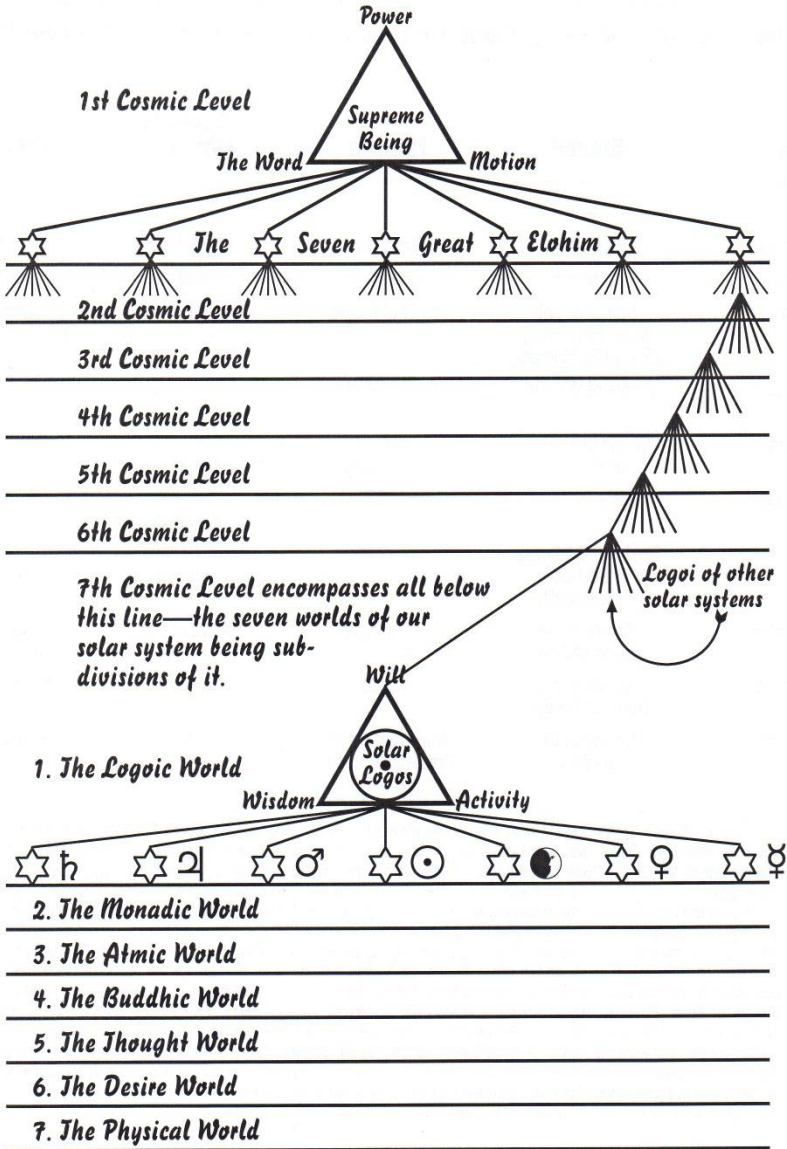
## 3 MAJOR AURIC CENTERS

*The Mind and Emotions are Like Monkeys:  
Always in Constant Motion*



**Part 4**  
*The Evolutionary Path*

# THE COSMIC HIERARCHY



# THE TWELVE CREATIVE HIERARCHIES

*The 12 Levels of Being Concerned with the Evolution of Our Life-Wave\**

<u>Sign</u>	<u>Steiner</u>	<u>Heindel</u>	<u>Esoteric Christian</u>	<u>Theosophical</u>
Aries	—	—	—	—
Taurus	—	—	—	—
Gemini	Seraphim	Seraphim	Seraphime	Triads
Cancer	Cherubim	Cherubim	Cherubime	Twofold Units
Leo	Spirits of Will (Radiating Lives) (Radiating Flames)	Lords of Flame	Thrones	Fiery Breaths
Virgo	Spirits of Wisdom	Lords of Wisdom	Dominions (Kriotes)	(Unities)
Libra	Spirits of Motion or Activity	Lords of Individuality	Principalities (Dynamis)	Mahat
Scorpio	Spirits of Form	Lords of Form	Powers (Exusiai)	Makâra
Sagittarius	Spirits of Darkness or Selfhood or Personality	Lords of Mind	Primal Beginnings (Archai)	Asuras Mânasaputras
Capricorn	Spirits of the Sons of Fire	Archangels	Archangeloi	Agnishvâttas
Aquarius	Spirits of the Sons of Twilight	Angels	Angeloi	Lunar or Barishad Pitris
Pisces	Monads of Our Life-Wave	Virgin Spirits of Present Humanity	Men	Present Humanity

\*Saturn Period "Man"—the **Monads of our Life-Wave** which were "breathed out" by the Solar Logos at the beginning of this first Planetary Chain—was surrounded by 11 other kinds of beings. These, together, constituted the **12 Creative Hierarchies** of the Grand Cycle of Evolution. These beings may be thought of as expressing twelve levels of conscious development. The highest four of these (*two unnamed, the Seraphim, and the Cherubim*) worked on levels of development which preceded this Period. The remaining seven were concerned with human development in addition to the Saturn "Man", and these included: (1) the **Spirits of Will (Thrones)** who possessed a high creative (*supra-spiritual*) consciousness which we will not attain until after the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> or Vulcan period; (2) the **Spirits of Wisdom (Dominions)** who possessed a creative (*spiritual consciousness*) which we will attain during the Vulcan Period; (3) the **Spirits of Activity (Principalities)** who possessed a self-conscious (*supra-psychic*) object consciousness which we will achieve during the Venus period; (4) the **Spirits of Form (Powers)** who possessed a self conscious (*psychic*) image consciousness which we will develop during the Jupiter Period; (5) the **Spirits of Personality (Primal Beginnings)** who possessed present Earth Period "Man" (*Us*) consciousness and were the humanity of the Saturn period; (6) the **Spirits of the Sons of Fire (Archangels)** who possessed the animal-like dream consciousness which we developed during the Moon period; and (7) the **Spirits of the Sons of Twilight (Angels)** who possessed the plant-like deep-sleep consciousness which we developed during the Sun Period. Saturn Period "Man" (*Us*) had only the deep trance consciousness of the present mineral kingdom.

## THE CREATIVE HIERARCHIES

"Each class of Creators endows man with what it has to give: the one builds his external forms, the other gives him its essence, which later on becomes the Human Higher Self owing to the **personal exertion of the individual**; but they could not make men as they were themselves—perfect, because sinless; sinless, because having only the first, pale shadowy outlines of attributes, and these all perfect—from the human standpoint—white, pure and cold as the virgin snow. **Where there is no struggle, there is no merit.** Humanity, 'of the Earth earthy,' was not destined to be created by the angels of the first divine Breath: therefore they are said to have refused to do so, and **man had to be formed by more material creators**, who, in their turn, could give only what they had in their own natures, and no more. Subservient to eternal law, the pure gods could only project out of themselves shadowy men, a little less ethereal and spiritual, less divine and perfect than themselves—shadows still. The first humanity, therefore, was a pale copy of its progenitors; too spiritual and pure to be MEN, endowed as it is with every negative (Nirguna) perfection. **Perfection, to be fully such, must be born out of imperfection, the incorruptible must grow out of the corruptible**, having the latter as its vehicle and basis and contrast. Absolute light is absolute darkness, and vice versa. In fact, there is neither light nor darkness in the realms of truth. Good and Evil are twins, the progeny of Space and Time, under the sway of Maya (illusion). Separate them, by cutting off one from the other, and they will both die. Neither exists per se, since each has to be generated and created out of the other, in order to come into being; both must be known and appreciated before becoming objects of perception, hence, in mortal mind, they must be divided."

**H. P. Blavatsky in "The Secret Doctrine"  
(Vol. II, pp. 95-96)**

## THE SOUL'S PILGRIMAGE

*The Secret Doctrine postulates that there is one absolute Reality which antecedes all manifested, conditioned, being. This Infinite and Eternal Cause is the rootless root of "all that was, is, or ever shall be." The One Reality is the field of Absolute Consciousness. But once that we pass in thought from this (to us) Absolute Negation, duality supervenes in the contrast of Spirit and Matter, Subject and Object. Just as pre-cosmic Ideation [Core SELF, Father, Purusha] is the root of all individual consciousness, so pre-cosmic Substance [Not-Self, MOTHER-SPACE, Mūlaprakriti] is the substratum of matter in the various grades of its differentiation.*

*Moreover, the Secret Doctrine teaches: the fundamental identity of all Souls with the Universal Over-Soul, the latter being itself an aspect of the Unknown Root; and the obligatory pilgrimage for every Soul—a spark of the former—through the Cycle of Incarnation in accordance with Cyclic and Karmic law, during the whole term. In other words, no purely spiritual divine Soul can have an independent (conscious) existence before the spark which issued from the OVER-SOUL,—has (a) passed through every elemental form of the phenomenal world of that Manvantara [Cosmic Cycle of Manifestation], and (b) acquired individuality, first by natural impulse, and then by self-induced and self-devised efforts (checked by its Karma), thus ascending through all the degrees of intelligence, from the lowest to the highest Manas [Mind], from mineral and plant up to the holiest archangel. The pivotal doctrine of the philosophy admits no privileges or special gifts in man, save those won by his own Ego through personal effort and merit throughout a long series of reincarnations. It is the Spiritual evolution of the inner, immortal man that forms the fundamental tenet in the Occult Sciences.*

*The Oriental philosophy has room for no other faith than an absolute and immovable faith in the omnipotence of man's own immortal self. This omnipotence comes from the kinship of man's spirit with the Universal Soul—God. **The latter can never be demonstrated but by the former.** Man-spirit proves God-spirit, as the one drop of water proves a source from which it must have come. When one sees mortal man displaying tremendous capabilities, controlling the forces of nature and opening up to view the world of spirit, the reflective mind is overwhelmed with the conviction that if one man's spiritual Ego can do this much, the capabilities of the FATHER SPIRIT must be relatively as much vaster as the whole ocean surpasses the single drop in volume and potency. **Prove the soul of man by its wondrous powers—you have proved God.***

**H. P. Blavatsky**



## THE EVOLUTIONARY PATH

- **The Evolutionary Path is, for the Most Part, a Spiral One** — consisting of ***cycles of birth and death*** into and out of more subjective “spiritual” worlds, on the one hand, and more objective “material” worlds, on the other hand.
- **In these Cycles** — the ***subjective Spiritual Consciousness involves*** “downward” through worlds made up of increasingly dense “matter” of increasingly lower vibratory rates; and the ***objective Form evolves*** “upward” into finer, more “intelligent” and responsive substances of increasingly higher vibratory rates.
- **In Later, More Advanced Stages of Development** — the Path becomes ***more accelerated***, the Individual Consciousness experiencing “quantum jumps” in realization and understanding of the Divine Pattern. These ***inner experiences*** which occur periodically are called “***Initiations.***”
- **The Path of Initiation is a Straight and Narrow One** — in contrast to the much more gradual and slower spiral ***Path of Evolution.***
- **The Caduceus of Hermes** — very nicely symbolizes these two Paths: the ***central rod*** representing the accelerated Path of Initiation; and the ***two serpents*** coiled about the central rod representing the much slower spiral Path.
- **The Ultimate Purpose of the Cycles of Involution and Evolution is** — for the ***Divine Sparks***, the “Virgin Spirits” or ***Monads***, the ***numberless units or copies*** of the infinite ONE LIFE, to develop ***self-consciousness*** through experience in vehicles of increasing complexity.
- **The Essence of these Experiences are “Soul Qualities”** — which serve as the ***food*** or pabulum assimilated by the Spiritual Consciousness to ***increase its power*** to create and express in the various Worlds of Manifestation.
- **A Primary Feature of the Human Kingdom is Individualization** — where a single spiritual Ego “dwells” within, or more or less intimately “inhabits,” a composite body or vehicle of form.
- **This “Indwelling” Occurs through the Link of Mind** — the ***involved Spirit*** having met and connected with the evolved Form through this Focal Point: a sufficiently developed ***concrete Mental Body*** .

- **With the Lower Kingdoms, Consciousness in Form is, at Best, of a Dreamy Sort** — mostly of a feeling nature (*attraction or repulsion, interest or disinterest*), and any mental activity is strictly a **conditioned response**; intelligent quite possibly, but not in a conceptual or apperceptive sense of awareness, but only an awareness of a **very narrow, momentary sort**, focused on a specific situation.
- **Spirit Controls the Animal** — through **instinctive and passive centers** such as the solar plexus (*negative clairvoyance*), and through “pictures” in the blood: a consciousness corresponding to the **dream state**.
- **Consciousness in the Plant** — is of the **deep-sleep state**: insentient responses to external stimuli, though vitality is operative through a specialized etheric structure.
- **Consciousness in the Mineral Form** — is of the **deep-trance state**: responses only to coarse physical blows, and the vital force confined only to **chemical interactions** and **crystal formation** with no specialized etheric vehicle.
- **Consciousness Experiences in the Lower Kingdoms through Group- Souls** — spiritual “triads” whose lower seed-atoms of form are **grouped within a single matrix** of one or more layers of “mindstuff” or **mental force-matter** (*mental “elemental” essence*), “desire-stuff” or **astral force-matter** (*astral “monadic” essence*) and etheric vital substance (*physical “atomic” matter*).
- **With the Mineral Group-Soul the Highest Aspect of Spirit (the Will-Power Principle) Awakens** — through projection of a **physical seed-atom** into a **mineral form** to experience coarse physical blows.
- **With the Vegetable Group-Soul the Second Aspect of Spirit (the Love-Wisdom Principle) Awakens** — through projection of an **astral as well as a physical seed-atom** into a **plant form** to experience vitality and primitive desire in the form of attraction and repulsion.
- **With the Animal Group-Soul the Third Aspect of Spirit (the Active Intelligence Principle) Awakens** — through projection of a **complete “lower triad”** of concrete mental, astral and physical (*permanent*) seed-atoms into an **animal form** to experience feelings and emotions and primitive thought processes.
- **The Step Preceding Individualization Occurs** — when a **single upper “triad”** (*spiritual Ego*) of a **single Monad** (*Divine Spark*) projects a lower triad into **one animal**. This generally happens with a highly intelligent domesticated animal, such as a beloved pet dog

or cat, which has experienced intimate contact with human beings through a loving but disciplined relationship.

- **At this Point of Development there is not yet any Link of Mind** — the Ego only overshadowing the animal form; the Ego, ***still separated*** from the form, ***is enshrouded*** in the group-soul sheath of higher concrete mental “substance” (*4<sup>th</sup> level of the Thought World*).
- **Prior to this Stage** — the Ego ***overshadows a group*** of animal bodies. In still earlier stages, ***groups of Egos share a single mental sheath*** as they overshadow a number of animal forms.
- **The First True Individualization Occurs in the Human Stage** — when the permanent mental unit, or seed-atom of the mind, has been sufficiently developed or awakened to have ***specialized a “mind body”*** composed of all four levels of concrete “mind-stuff” (*mental “matter” or Chitta*).
- **At this point, the Link of Mind has Formed** — and the former group-soul sheath has dissolved; in its place, the Ego is enshrouded in a sheath composed of the ***upper three levels of “mind-stuff”***: i.e., force-matter of the Region of Abstract Thought of the Thought World. ***This is the Causal Body*** (*a Theosophical term*).
- **The Causal Body has been Given Various Other Names** — such as the ***Karana Sarira*** or ***Karanopadhi*** (*Hindu*), the ***Augoeides*** or ***Vesture of Light*** (*Greek*), and the ***Robe of Glory*** (*Gnostic*).
- **The Causal Body is a Receptacle or Chalice (the Holy Grail) in Several Ways** —
  - **It is the Only One of Our Vehicles which can Contain the Holy Spirit** — the ***Shekinah***, the highest form of the ***Azoth*** (*the most potent expression of the Universal Life-Force*) with which we can work. When, through this receptacle, we have been ***“filled with the Holy Spirit,”*** we become the ***Philosopher’s Stone*** and can thereby ***transmute*** the ***“sins of the world.”***
  - **It is the Storehouse of the Essence of all Worthwhile Experiences** — accumulated over all previous life cycles, pre-human as well as human stages.
  - **It is the Seat of Our True Conscience** — having integrated and assimilated all these previous life experiences into the ***knowledge*** of ***right thinking, right feeling and right action.***
  - **It, at the End of a Life-Cycle and the Beginning of a New Life-Cycle** — contains the ***archetypal patterns*** or nuclei (*seed-atoms*)

of the **four bodies of the Personality** (the lower quaternary): the dense physical, etheric vital, astral (*desire*) and concrete mental vehicles which the Ego has built, for better or for worse, during all previous experiences.

- **These Patterns, the Permanent Seed-Atoms** — incorporate all of our **faculties, talents and inclinations** (“good” as well as “evil”). We have free choice in each life to mold, improve and perfect these characteristics into assets; or to misuse, waste and atrophy them as liabilities.
- **The Causal Body is the Vehicle of Abstract Thought** — the medium through which the **Will** (*Atma or Divine Spirit*) and **Intuition** (*Buddhi or Life Spirit*) Principles of the Ego impress **germinal ideas** which subsequently are translated into concrete ideas or thought-forms.
- **The Three-Fold Spiritual Ego in the Causal Body is Sinless** — because its vibratory patterns are too fine to assimilate **coarser vibratory patterns** of “evil” (*i.e., malicious, self-serving, materialistic, vulgar, destructive, inharmonious, unlawful, etc.*) tendencies.
- **It therefore Suffers from Omission rather than Commission** — from **ignorance, weakness and lack of development** rather than deliberate and conscious malice.
- **The Causal Body is Relatively Immortal** — persisting throughout the normal human evolutionary process.
- **This Contrasts with the Four Bodies of the Personality** — which last for **only one life-cycle**, although their abstract archetypal patterns persist in the “permanent” seed-atoms of the subjective spiritual principles.
- **The Spiritual Ego (Higher Self) in the Causal Body — is the Real Man**, the Thinker; the Inner Lord; and the Monad or **Divine Spark** (*the real Core SELF*) is “his Father which art in heaven.”
- **The Mystic Union is a Spiritual Marriage** —
  - **First between the Concrete Mind of the Personality** — the **Bride** or Alchemical Queen, and the Higher Ego in the Causal Body— the **Bridegroom** or Alchemical King.
  - **This First Stage of Union Builds “Antahkarana”** — the “Rainbow Bridge” or the Internal Instrument, the connection of lower (concrete) mind with higher (abstract) mind to form the **“Hermaphrodite Philosopher,”** the two-headed Phoenix which arises from the ashes of the old Personality.

- **The Final Stage or “Perfection of Union”** — is between the **Higher Ego** and the **Monad**, which is the direct extension or representative of the **Solar Logos**: the God “in which we live and move and have our Being.”
- **Spiritual Regeneration is the Freeing of Consciousness** — from its entanglement and identification with the *Form-side* of the Nature.
- **Development of Self-Consciousness and Individuality** — *necessitates this entanglement* for a time during the involutionary stages of experience; **spiritual realization** occurs during the evolutionary stages in which this **crystallization is broken up** and transmuted into Soul Qualities.

# PREREQUISITES FOR SELF-REALIZATION

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**To understand the  
essence of, and to  
bring about alchemical  
transmutations,  
*we must be able to  
move up and down  
4 levels of worlds and  
7 levels of principles.***

# The Four Worlds

**DIVINE WORLD**

*Causal Sphere of Emanation*

BEING Pre-Archetypal

**SPIRITUAL WORLD**

*Intellectual Sphere of Creation*

KNOWING Subatomic

**PSYCHIC WORLD**

*Actualizing Sphere of Formation*

DOING Atomic

**PHYSICAL WORLD**

*Crystallizing Sphere of Action*

MAKING Molecular

# The Seven Principles

- 7 ATMA OR DIVINE SPIRIT *To Be*
- 6 BUDDHI OR LIFE SPIRIT *To Know*
- 5 HIGHER MANAS (Abstract Mind) *To Do*  
OR HUMAN SPIRIT
- LOWER MANAS (Concrete Mind) *To Think*
- 4 KAMA RUPA OR DESIRE BODY (Desires & Emotions) *To Feel*
- 3 PRANA OR VITALITY (Form-Preserving Aspect of Life-Force) *To Live*
- 2 LINGA SARIRA OR VITAL BODY (Etheric Double) *To Sense*
- 1 SHTULA SARIRA OR GROSS FORM (Dense Physical Body) *To Bump into Things*



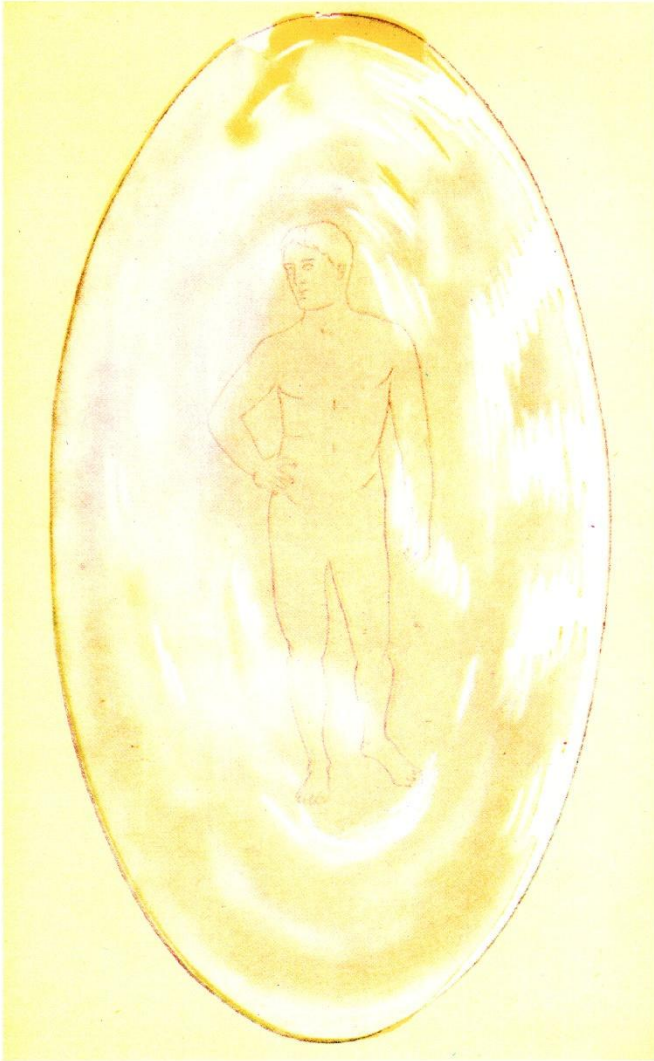
# Color Plates

*Of the Causal Body of  
Persons in Various Stages  
of Intellectual and  
Spiritual Development*

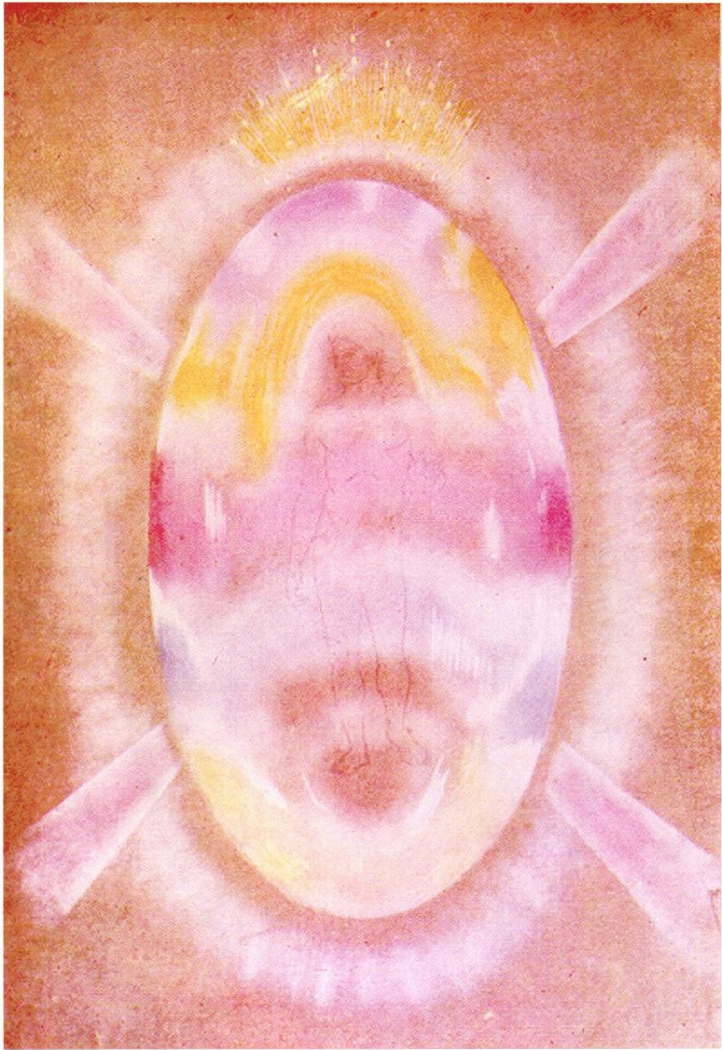
*According to C. W. Leadbeater  
in "Man Visible and Invisible"*



CAUSAL BODY OF A PRIMITIVE MAN



**CAUSAL BODY OF AN AVERAGE MAN**



CAUSAL BODY OF A DEVELOPED MAN



CAUSAL BODY OF AN ADEPT

# Illustrations

*Of the Steps along the  
Evolutionary Path toward  
Development of the Fully  
Self-Conscious Individual*

Adapted from  
"The Causal Body and the Ego"  
by Arthur E. Powell

# THE FIELD OF EVOLUTION

## THE FIELDS OF EVOLUTION

Number.		Name		Field of Evolution.
Group.	Serial.	Sanskrit.	English.	
I.	1	Ādī	(a)	Logaic.
	2	Anupādaka	(b)	
II.	3	Ātmā	Spirit	Super-normal human, <i>i.e.</i> , "Initiates."
	4	Buddhi	Intuition	
III.	5	Manas	Mind	Normal human, animal, vegetable, mineral and elemental entities.
	6	Kāmā	Emotion	
	7	Sthūla	Physical Activity	

(a) No English equivalent exists: Ādī means literally "first."

(b) No English equivalent exists: Anupādaka means literally "without vesture."

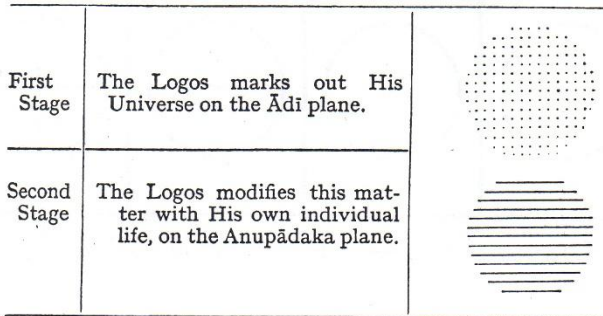


DIAGRAM I.—The Beginning of a Universe.

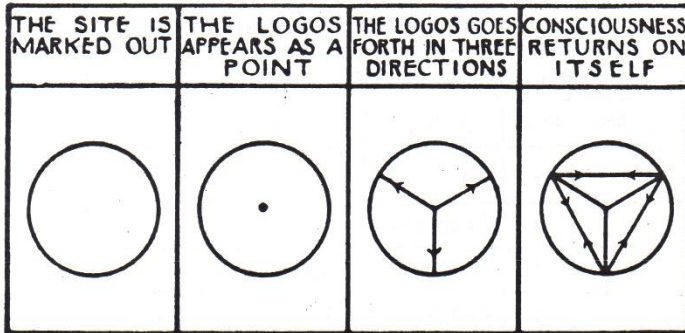


DIAGRAM II.—Manifestation of the Consciousness of the Logos.

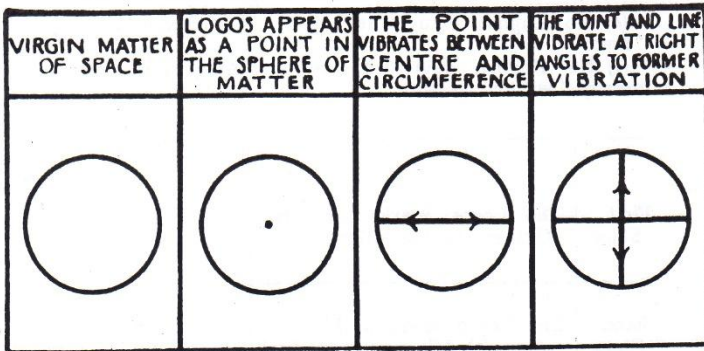


DIAGRAM III.—The Response of Matter.



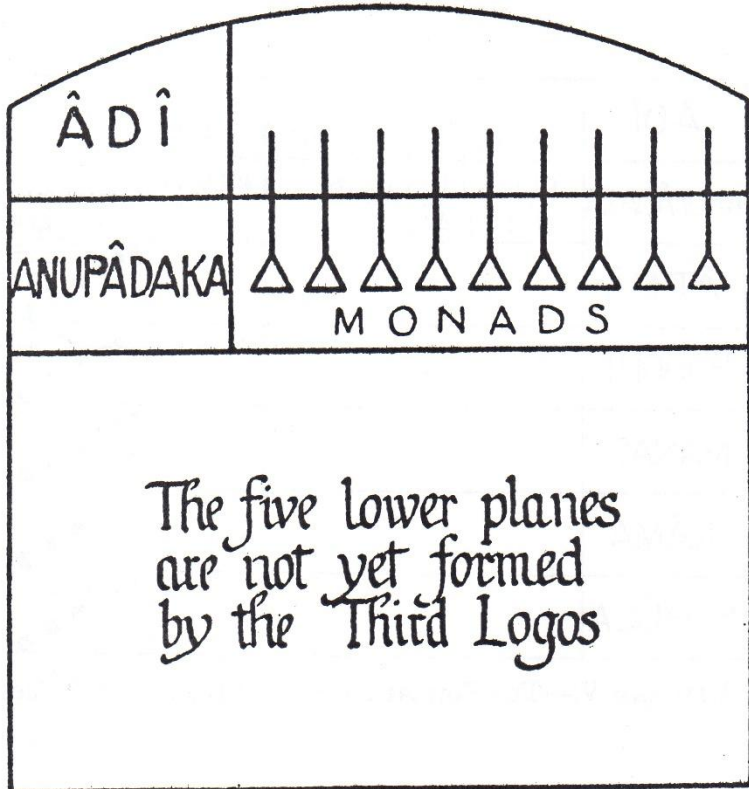


DIAGRAM IV.—The Coming Forth of the Monads.

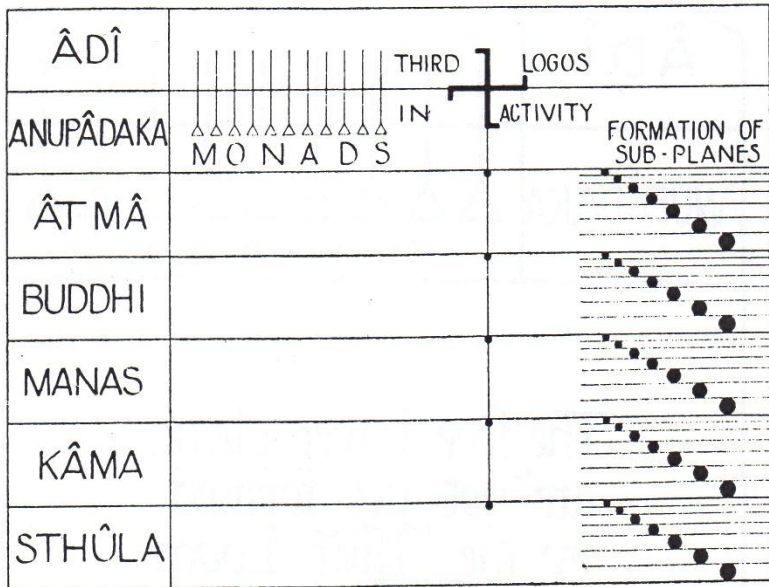


DIAGRAM V.—The Formation of the Five Lower Planes.

# THE ELEMENTAL KINGDOMS

Plane	Sub-Plane	Elemental	
		Sub-Divisions	Kingdoms
<b>Higher (Abstract) Mental</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>FIRST</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>2 : 3 : 4</b>	
	<b>3</b>	<b>5 : 6 : 7</b>	
<b>Lower (Concrete) Mental</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>SECOND</b>
	<b>5</b>	<b>2 : 3</b>	
	<b>6</b>	<b>4 : 5</b>	
	<b>7</b>	<b>6 : 7</b>	
<b>Desire or Astral (Emotional)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>2 : 3 : 4</b>	
	<b>3</b>	<b>5 : 6 : 7</b>	
	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	
	<b>5</b>	<b>2 : 3</b>	
	<b>6</b>	<b>4 : 5</b>	
	<b>7</b>	<b>6 : 7</b>	

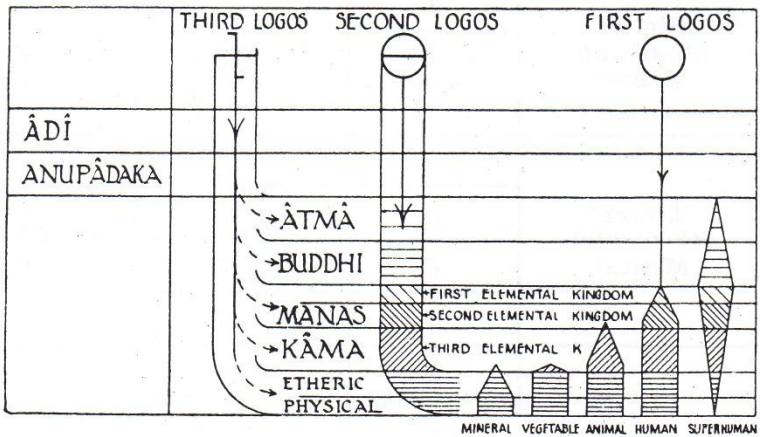
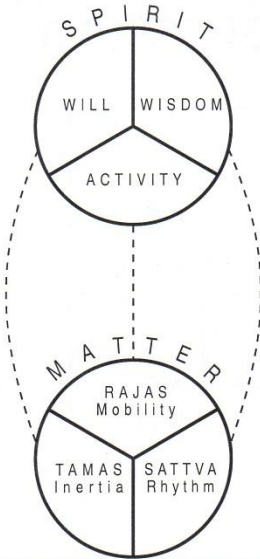


DIAGRAM VI.—The Kingdoms of Life.

# THE SEVEN ARCHETYPES



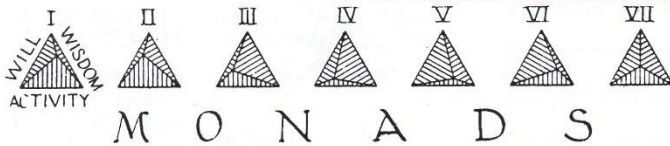
Predominant Aspect	Secondary Aspect	Tertiary Aspect
Will Will Wisdom Wisdom Activity Activity	Wisdom Activity Will Activity Will Wisdom	Activity Wisdom Activity Will Wisdom Will

The seventh variety is that in which the three aspects are of equal predominance.

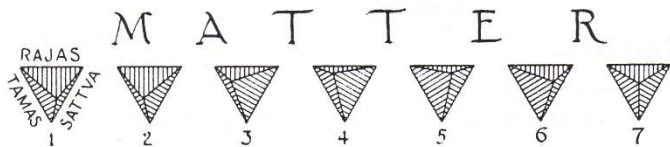
Formation of the Seven Rays or Archetypal Qualities of the Logos from the Seven Permutations of the Three Aspects of Consciousness

The Aspects of Consciousness & the Qualities of Matter

The Seven Types of Monads and the Seven Types of Matter



Though each Monad belongs fundamentally to one Ray or "Planetary Lord," it yet partakes to some degree of the Qualities of all seven.



# ATTACHMENT OF THE PERMANENT ATOMS OF THE HIGHER TRIAD

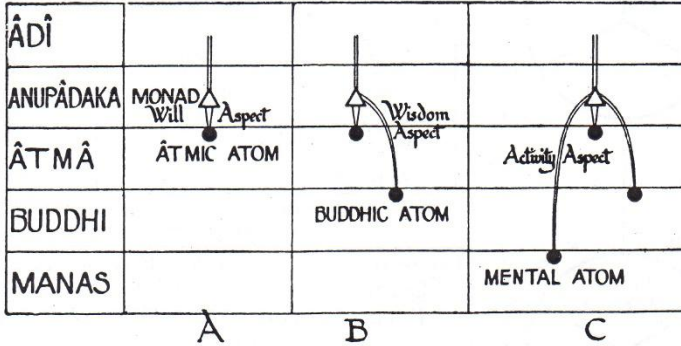


DIAGRAM IX.—Attachment of the Âtomic, Buddhic and Mental Permanent Atoms.

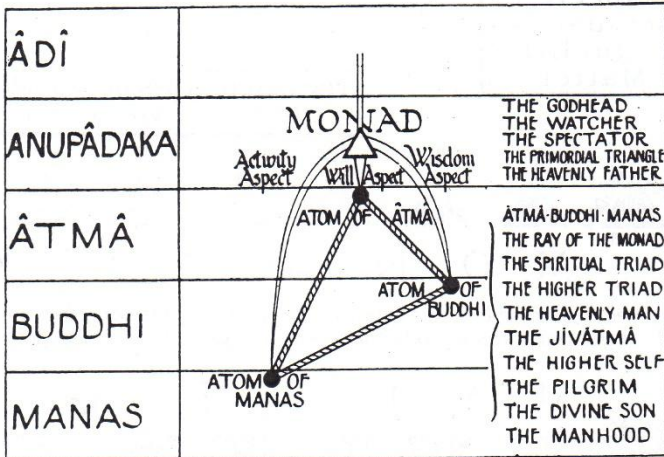


DIAGRAM X.—The Monad and the Higher Triad.

# COMPLETION OF THE ATTACHMENT OF THE SEED-ATOMS

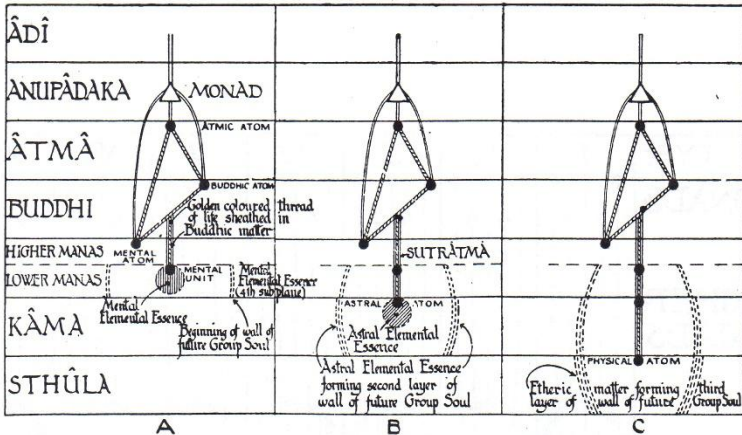


DIAGRAM XI.—Attachment of Mental Unit and Astral and Physical Permanent Atoms.

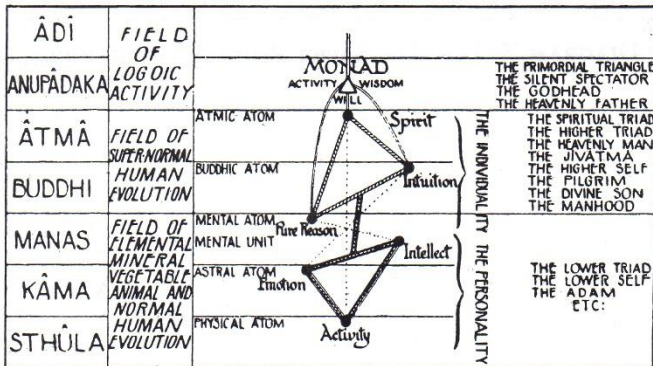


DIAGRAM XII.—The Monad and His Atoms.

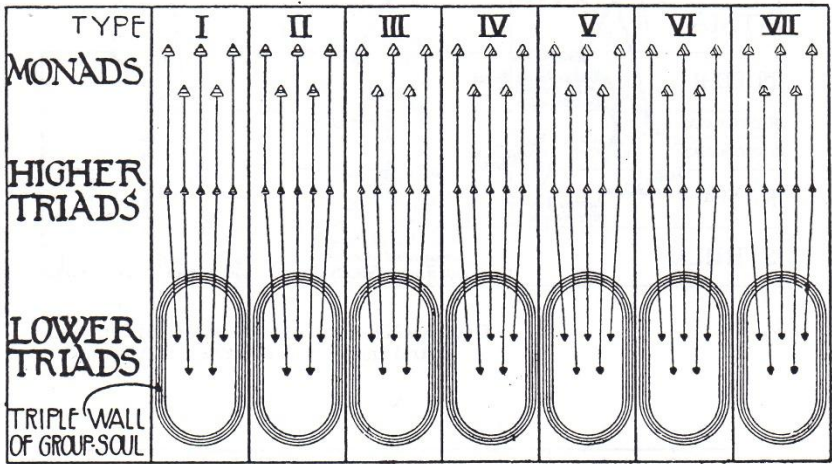


DIAGRAM XIII.—The Seven Primary Group-Souls.



# MINERAL, VEGETABLE AND ANIMAL GROUP SOULS

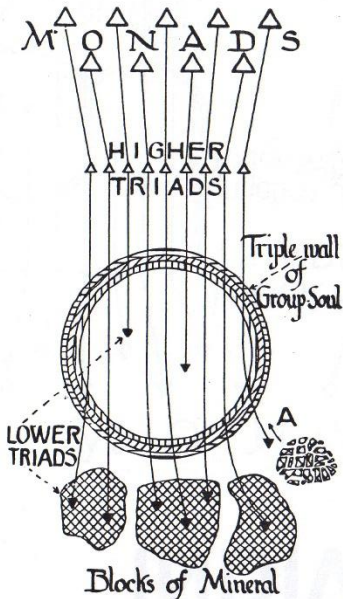


DIAGRAM XIV.—A Mineral Group-Soul.

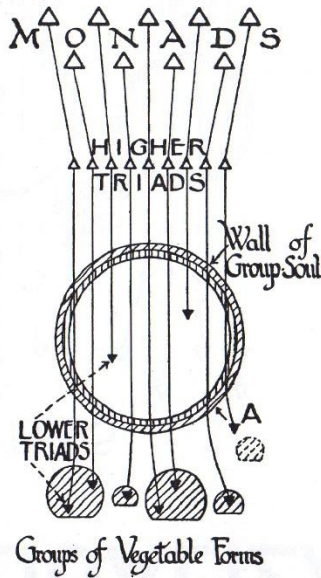


DIAGRAM XV.—A Vegetable Group-Soul.

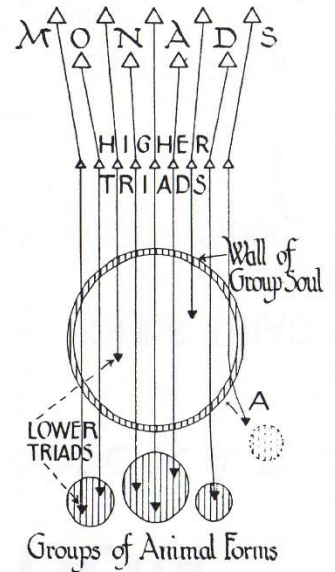


DIAGRAM XVI.—An Animal Group-Soul.

# APPROACHING INDIVIDUALIZATION

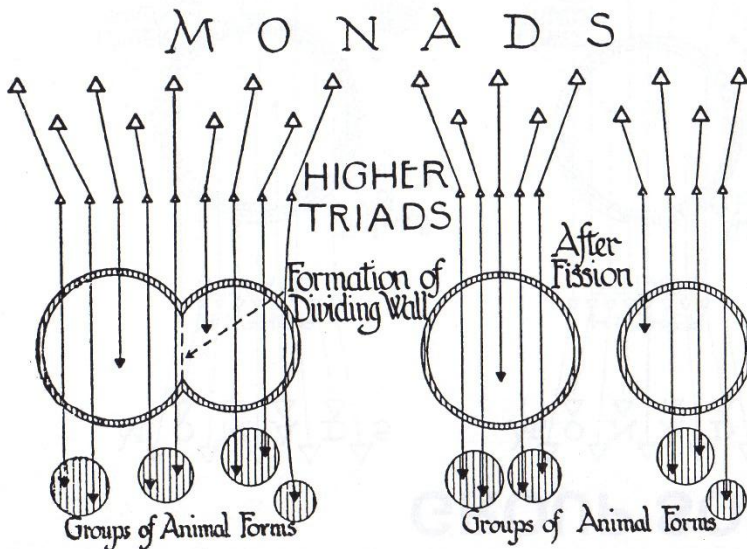


DIAGRAM XVII.—Fission of an Animal Group-Soul.

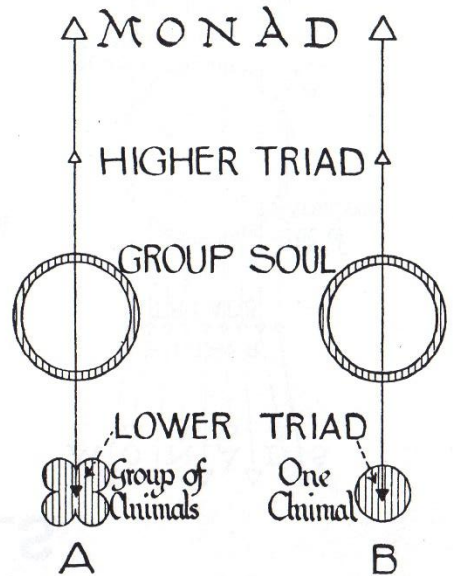


DIAGRAM XVIII.—Animal Group-Soul containing one Lower Triad—

- (A) Attached to a group of animals.  
(B) Attached to one animal.

# INDIVIDUALIZATION AND THE FORMATION OF THE CAUSAL BODY

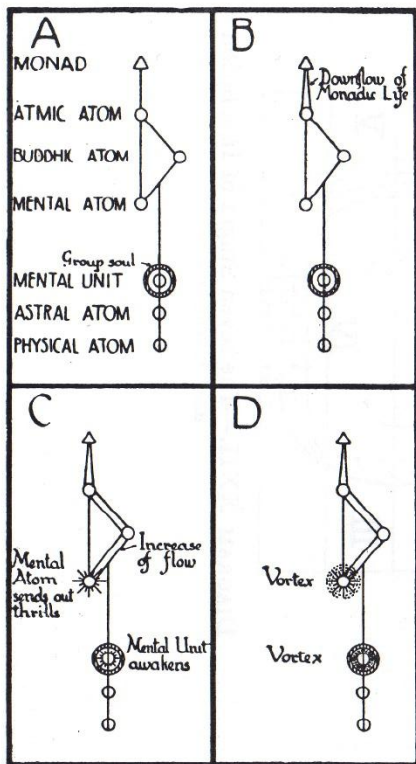


DIAGRAM XIX.—Individualisation.

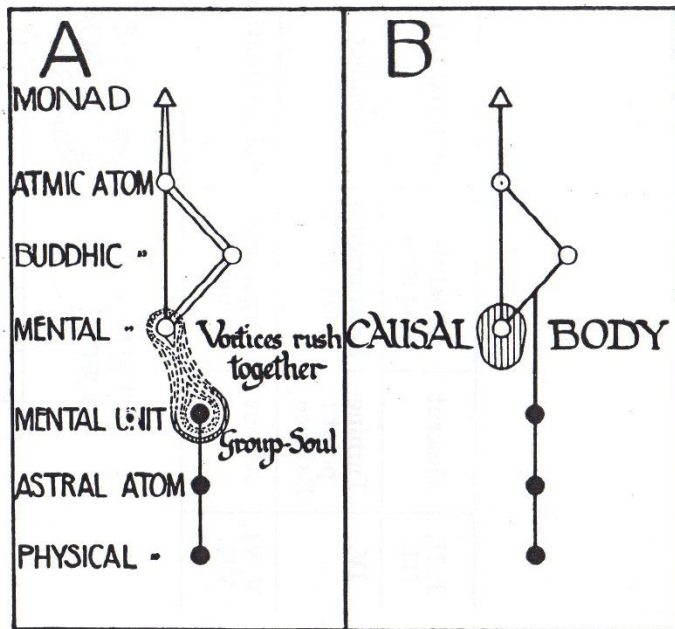


DIAGRAM XX.—Formation of Causal Body.

I, II, III.	Descent	Qualities imparted	Materialisation	Involution
IV.	Turning- point : Balance	Relationships established	Conflict	Changing from Involution to Evolution
V, VI, VII.	Ascent	Organisms built	Spiritualisation	Evolution

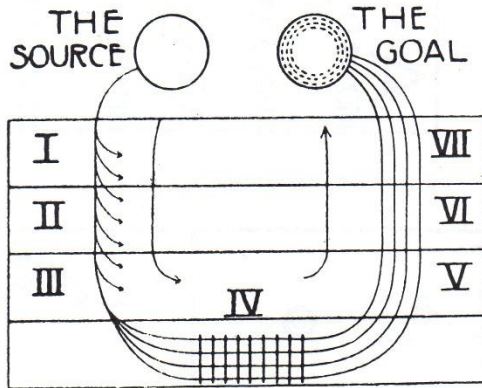


DIAGRAM XXII.—The seven Stages of Involution and Evolution.

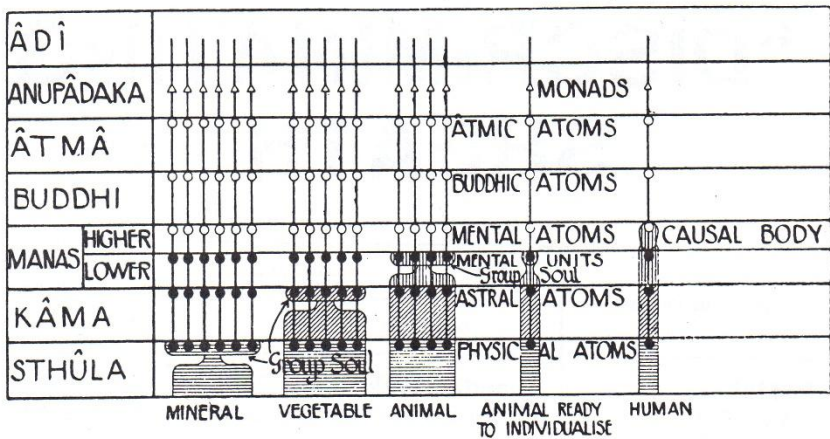


DIAGRAM XXIII.—From Mineral to Man,

# THE CAUSAL BODY AS THE “DISCRIMINATING SHEATH”

Principle in man.	Kosha or Sheath.	
	Sanskrit.	English.
Buddhi . . .	Ānandamayakosha	Bliss sheath.
Higher Manas . . .	Vijñānamayakosha	Discriminating sheath.
Lower Manas and Kāma . . .	Manomayakosha . . .	Feeling sheath.
Prāna . . .	Prānamayakosha . . .	Vitality sheath.
Sthūla . . .	Annamayakosha . . .	Food sheath.

# RESONANCE PATHWAYS

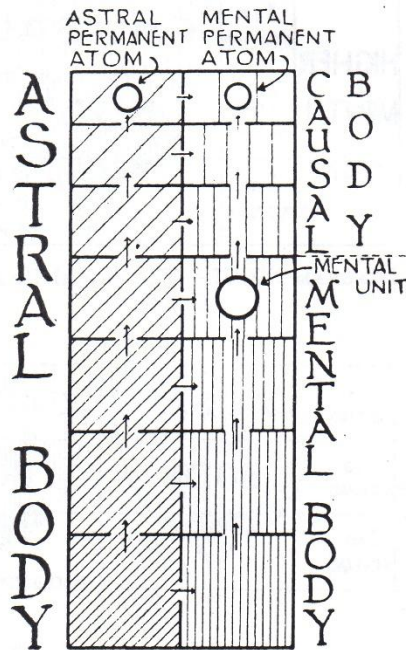


DIAGRAM XXIV.—Effect of Astral on Mental and Causal Bodies.

DIAGRAM XXIV.—The sub-planes of the astral and mental planes are here shown as of diminishing size, in order to illustrate the fact of their increasing fineness as we rise from the lower to the higher levels.

Openings between adjacent sub-planes of each plane indicate that certain of the "vibrations" of a given sub-plane can be transmitted to the sub-plane immediately above. These openings or gateways become narrower and narrower, indicating that only the finest vibrations can pass onwards to the higher levels.

Openings between each sub-plane of the astral plane and the corresponding sub-plane of the mental plane, indicate that there is also a possibility of an astral vibration being communicated, at a higher octave, to the corresponding mental sub-plane.

The diagram further illustrates that the mental body is more directly affected by the four lower levels of the astral plane, whilst the causal body is affected by only the three higher levels of astral matter.

# THE EGO'S INVESTMENT

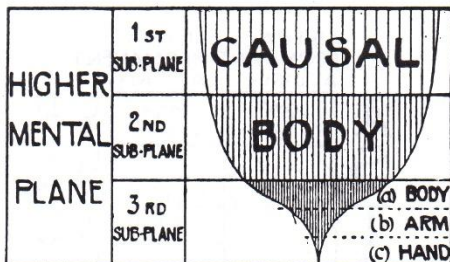
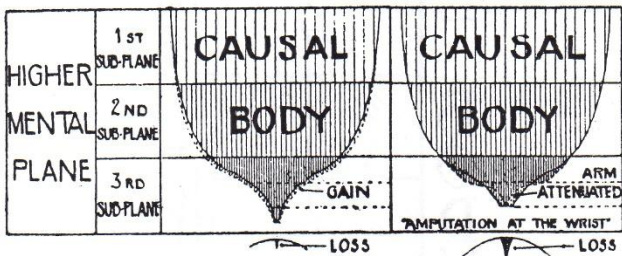
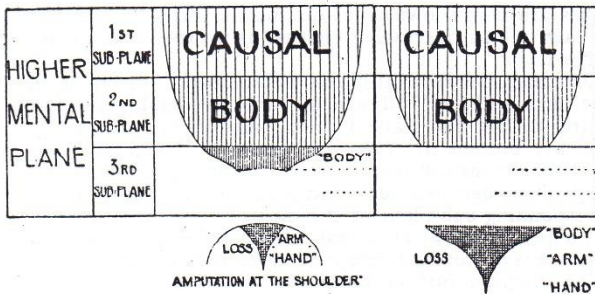


DIAGRAM XXVI.—The Causal Body as a Chalice.



A. Normal Case.      B. Abnormal Case.

DIAGRAM XXVII.—The Ego and His Investment (I)



C. Result of Black Magic.      D. Extreme Case.

DIAGRAM XXVIII.—The Ego and His Investment (II)



# APPROACHING SELF-REALIZATION

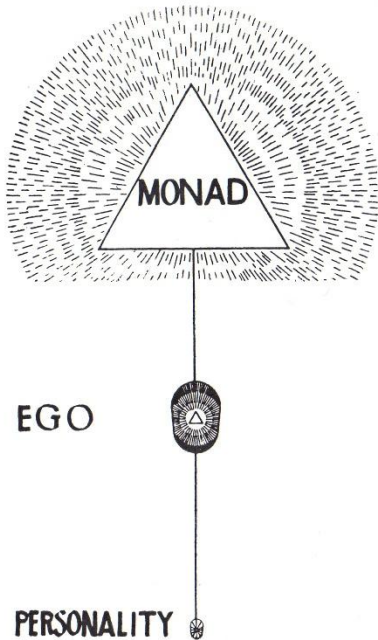


DIAGRAM XXXIX.—Monad, Ego and Personality (I).

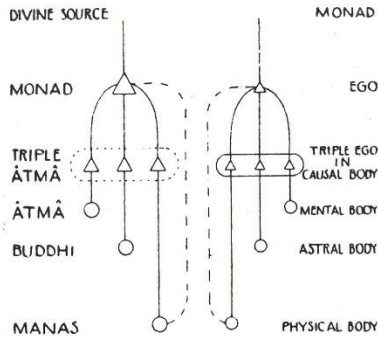


DIAGRAM XL.—Monad and Egoic Relationships.

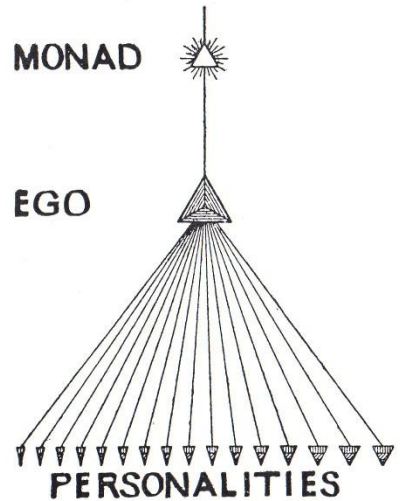


DIAGRAM XXIX.—The Ego and His Personalities.

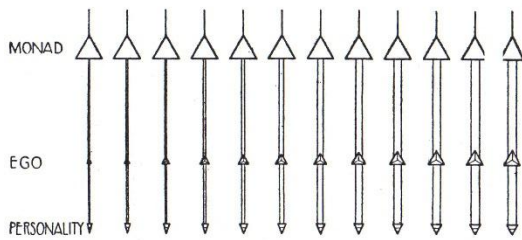


DIAGRAM XLI.—Monad, Ego and Personality (II).

**The Mystic Union**  
*An Essay*

## THE MYSTIC UNION

A key factor in our spiritual development is **BALANCE**. Many of the dangers along the path of this development, especially if it is accelerated, are due to our getting out of balance; and if not dangers, the process will set up a wall or “ring-pass-not” around us which will act as a brake or barrier to further progress—until we correct the imbalance. It has been said, then, that for the sincere spiritual aspirant, “the ring-pass-not is an ever widening circle.”

Both the Eastern and Western Wisdom Teachings speak of two basic paths of spiritual development. The one is that of the esoteric student—the spiritual scientist or **occultist**, in which the **intellectual** or mental side of the nature is developed and applied more than the heart or devotional side in approaching the higher truths. This path to God, or the ultimate Reality, utilizes mainly positive, or active, volitional energy. The other path is that of the **mystic**, who develops and applies the heart or **devotional** side of his or her nature more than the mind in seeking higher reality. This path to God utilizes mainly negative, or passive, energy.

The aim of the some Mystery Schools is to first satisfy the intellect as to the reality of the “higher” worlds and the great plan of evolution; and then to develop the heart or devotional side of the nature, the ultimate goal being the perfect union of the purified mind and heart. This is the Mystical Spiritual Marriage, or **Mystic Union**. The united mind and heart will then each work in consonance with the other to further their mutual development in perfect harmony. This will lead, in the true immaculate conception of regeneration, to the birth of the Christ Child in us. In this exalted state we will be able to “**think with the heart and feel with the mind.**”

For a general treatment of personal development, the balance is to be maintained between physical, emotional and intellectual development. This essay will concentrate on the latter two, and we will assume that proper care is being taken for the purification and maintenance of the dense physical body—our outermost machine, and that it will not be neglected while our higher bodies—the vital or etheric, the desire or astral, and the mind or mental vehicles are being worked on and spiritualized. Accordingly, the motto of one esoteric society is: “**A sane mind, a soft heart, and a sound body.**”

Using the above method, let’s begin with the intellectual approach in treating the establishment of balance and of harmonizing the activity of our different vehicles, and then end with the devotional side. Three illustrations, hopefully, will make the point by analogy; one is more pragmatic and the other two more allegorical in form.

In parts of the world where elephants are used as work animals, when one elephant goes berserk and out of control, two normal ele-

phants are placed, one on each side, of the crazy animal, the sane animals calming down the crazy one and bringing it under control. So, for example, if our emotions start to get out of control—that is, our desire body becomes the mad elephant—we can get them under control and restore balance by placing the mind and intellect, with their reasoning power and rational awareness on one side; and on the other side of the mad emotional beast, the physical body, through concentration of the attention on breathing, posture, and performance of some purposeful activity. Positive constructive thinking, and the taking of three deep breaths during a trying situation are certainly proven techniques.

**Next, the allegory of the carriage, the horses, the reins, the coachman and the passenger** (see the *Kathopaniṣad*, Chapter 3) remains one of the outstanding illustrations of how the harmonizing of all of our vehicles must be accomplished before the Mystic Union can be consummated and the Divine Birth (*of the Christ Child*) takes place in us. In this allegory, the carriage or chariot is the dense physical body; the horses are the senses and emotions expressed through the dense physical, vital and desire bodies; the reins represent the lower concrete brain-mind (*the physical and ethers brains and the four lower levels of the mental body or Manas*); the coachman or driver is the higher intuitive mind or intellect (*the abstract mind or higher Manas together with the intuition or Buddhi*); and the passenger is the Master, the Higher Spiritual Ego or Christ-Self.

The aim is for the passenger to gain control of the whole ensemble so that he may reach his chosen destination. If one of the carriage wheels is broken, the whole thing can't go anywhere. So we must take care of our dense physical body, feeding and exercising it properly to keep it fit to serve us as the vehicle through which we function in the dense physical world of this present Epoch. **We must also remember that our dense physical body is the most highly evolved and organized of all our vehicles of form.**

If the horses become spooked and uncontrollable, they will pull the carriage wherever they hysterically please, perhaps into a ditch or off the edge of a cliff. So then, we must be in conscious control of the senses and emotions through purification and mastery of the vital and desire bodies. **This means that they must become completely objective to usage must learn to observe and use them as instruments to serve high and noble purposes.**

If the reins are too loose or they are broken, the coachman will be unable to command the horses to slow down, speed up or change direction. The concrete mind, the lower aspect of what we loosely call the "mind" and which is symbolized by the reins, is a composite vehicle consisting of the dense physical brain, its etheric counterpart, and the mental body or mind-sheath. The latter is comprised of "mind stuff" specialized by us out of the force-matter of the lower four sub-levels of the Planetary Thought World, and is an ovoid or egg-shaped, more-or-less organized cloud which interpenetrates the three lower bodies and extends out somewhat beyond them.

This lower concrete mind complex is not the center of our true intelligence, but is merely a biocomputer, an instrument of serial logic—in effect just a clerk—although quite a marvelous one. To do its proper job, it must be freed of turmoil, liberated from the influences of the desire nature, and sharpened and disciplined through the practice of observation, discrimination, concentration and logical thinking. Study of the physical sciences and mathematics is very helpful in this regard. This will develop it into an obedient and efficient link between the higher intuitive mind—symbolized by the coachman (*and which is much closer to the seat of true intelligence, the inner Microcosmic Sun—symbolized by the passenger*)—and the desire body, the vehicle which provides the force which impels us to action—symbolized by the horses.

This lower concrete mind complex is more than the reins which control the desire nature, but it is, as indeed the Western Wisdom Teaching Declares: ***“The focusing point through which Spirit mirrors itself in matter; truly the vehicle through which the indwelling Spiritual Ego controls its vehicles in the lower worlds.”*** This mind-link, then, is the mirror or lens by which the lower worlds are illuminated by the reflected light of the inner resplendent spark of Divine Love and Wisdom, the Virgin Spirit or Monad. A cloudy, distorted lens will only project a fuzzy, deformed image. A dirty, roughened mirror, like the rippled, muddy surface of the water in a pond during a rainstorm, will reflect only a dull fragmented image.

Delving into the subject of the mind-link and developing the intellectual side of our nature in more detail, we must consider three different lenses or mirrors which must be cleaned, shaped, polished and aimed so that the Inner Lord or passenger may make his journey smoothly and expeditiously. Consider, then, this third and last example, which illustrates the problem of receiving enlightenment for the average person in so-called “waking” consciousness:

Picture a situation where the image of the Sun is reflected by an optically-flat, finely-polished and flawlessly-silvered mirror onto a metal plate. As sharp and bright as this first reflected image is, it is not as magnificent as the direct emanation of the Sun because of some loss and scatter of the light rays in traveling through the earth’s atmosphere and the materials of the mirror. The surface of the metal plate is not as perfectly flat and polished as that of the mirror.

The first reflected image is further reflected off of the metal plate onto a wall which surface is even rougher and less flat than the metal plate. With each successive reflection, the image of the Sun becomes fainter and more distorted, so that what is seen projected onto the wall and reflected off of it onto the retinas of our eyes may be hardly recognized as the direct emanation of the original Sun. ***Such is the remnant of what we normally receive in our brain consciousness of the communications from our Higher Self—or Inner Lord or Christ.***

One Wisdom Teaching states that ***all real spiritual development begins with the etheric vital body***. In physical alchemy, the quintessence of the experience gained through the activity of this vehicle has

been called the "intellectual soul." It is the pabulum or food assimilated by the Buddhi or "Life Spirit," the Christ Principle or second aspect of the Threefold Spiritual Ego. This, in turn, is the direct vehicle or vesture of the Virgin Spirit or Monad, our inner Divine Spark. Our inner Christ Child grows, then, through development and spiritualization of the vital body (called in *Theosophy* the "etheric double"). The **first lens or mirror** to be described, and the one furthest down the line from the inner Sun, is formed in this body.

**There are four types of ethers**, these constituting the four highest levels of the Physical World and termed, collectively, the Etheric Region. The three lowest levels of the Physical World are comprised of the solids, liquids and gases with which we are all familiar, these termed, collectively, the Chemical Region. The two lower ethers, called the "chemical" and "life" ethers, respectively, are "prismatic" and particulate in structure, correlating with the nascent atomic, ionic and nuclear (*i.e.*, *protons and neutrons*) particles of modern chemistry and physics. These ethers, the plasmas of modern physics, serve as the media for the forces which preserve, vitalize and propagate the dense physical body. The forces conducted by these etheric particles interpenetrate and vivify each chemical atom and molecule, increasing their vibratory activity. These components of our vital body are responsible, then, for animating and keeping alive our dense physical bodies, which would rapidly decay and disintegrate if once they were withdrawn. They are, in a quite real sense, the ethers of the vegetative nature, through which media assimilation, excretion and propagation take place, and which are associated with **creaturehood**.

The two higher ethers serve as the media for **sentience**, and have been named the "light" and "reflecting" ethers, respectively. These are fluidic, "migratory" and volatile in nature compared with the lower ethers, and correlate with the electrons and neutrinos of modern physics. As such, they behave as much or more like waves than particles and, in reality, are energy- or force-patterns which follow the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle (*i.e.*, *you can't "pin them down" as particles*). From these ethers, as a result of certain exercises and disciplines, is formed what has been called the "**Soul Body**" or *Soma Psuchicon*, which will incorporate our **first lens or mirror**. This is the "**Golden Wedding Garment**" which the **Bride** or Alchemical Queen will wear when presented to her Beloved, the **Bridegroom** or Alchemical King at the **Mystic Union**. The higher ethers serve as the matrix or outer vesture for this spiritualized body, which is the vehicle of consciousness of the Higher Ego when functioning in the "invisible" worlds; its full development and organization will be a requirement for us in the next Epoch, which one Mystery School calls "New Galilee," functioning in the etheric atmosphere of the Earth Globe of that Epoch as does our dense physical body in the planetary atmosphere of the present Epoch of "Aryana."

The **light ether** is the medium for sense perception, particularly sight, for color, for the circulation of vital fluids in plants and cold-blooded animals, and for the production of blood heat in warm-blooded animals and humans. It correlates with the **desire or astral body**. The **reflecting ether**, so-called because it mirrors an aspect of the Thought

World called the "**True Memory of Nature**"—or the Akasic Records—correlates with the **mental body**. Corrine Heline, in her "Occult Anatomy and the Bible," has this to say about these ethers:

*"In the process of spiritual awakening, the light ether begins to vibrate in the pituitary gland, the 'feminine' organ of spiritual impulse" [and regeneration—called "Isis" or "Mary"] "thus opening vision into the inner planes.*

*"The reflecting ether has its root in the 'seed-atom' of the mind situated near the frontal sinus." [The four "seed-atoms" of the personality are energy forms which incorporate the permanent records or archetypal patterns of our four lower vehicles evolved from our cumulative cycles of embodiment.] "Here is the entrance into the sanctuary of the body temple, the adytum" [or Holy-of-Holies] "of the Ego. In spiritual awakening, the reflecting ether vibrates to the keynote of the pineal gland, the 'masculine' organ of perception" [and regeneration—called "RA" or "Joseph"] "and commonly known as the 'third eye.' Since this ether is the channel of memory and for powers of the subconscious mind, its awakening confers the faculty of remembering past lives, while the awakening of the light ether and pituitary gland confers the power of seeing pictures impressed upon the Akasic Records [or True Memory of Nature]."*

Like the dense physical body, the Soul Body requires food for its growth and maintenance. The higher "spiritual ethers" are attracted and concentrated by several safe and proven techniques. **First**, by repetition of high and noble ideas which patterns are impressed upon the vital body. **Second**, by the conservation of vital force or *Prana* through avoidance of worry, anger, depression and other negative emotions. **Third**, by cultivating the attitude and practice of loving, self-forgetting service in all phases of life to the point where, eventually, every act becomes a sacrament. And so it has been said that "Loving, self-forgetting service to others is the shortest, the safest and the most joyful road to God." **Fourth**, and finally, by performing the Retrospection exercise, or evening review of the day's events in reverse order, placing blame and praise where due, and feeling intensely hurts caused and gratitude engendered. (It should be emphasized that proper judgment, discrimination and perspective must be applied in doing this exercise rightly and effectively!) This clears our higher etheric vehicle of much clutter and rubbish, and cleans and polishes this mirror, eliminating conflict between the subconscious and conscious minds, and eventually uniting the two.

Quoting Max Heindel in "The Web of Destiny":

*"Where devotion to high ideals is the mainspring of action, where the devotional nature has been allowed for years to express itself freely and frequently . . . the quantity of the chemical and life ethers gradually diminishes as the animal appetites vanish, and an increased amount of the light and reflecting ethers takes their place. As a consequence, physical health is not as robust among people who*

follow the higher path as among people whose indulgence of the lower nature attracts the chemical and life ethers, in proportion to the extent and nature of their vice, to the partial or total exclusion of the two higher ethers."

As the Christ Spirit said through the agency of the man Jesus:

**"He who findeth his life shall lose it; but he who loseth his life for my sake shall find it."**

And further,

**"Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have."**

Returning again to Max Heindel:

"As new forms are propagated through the second ether of the vital body, so the HIGHER SELF, the CHRIST WITHIN, is formed through this same vehicle of generation—the vital body, in its higher aspects embodied in the two upper ethers.

"As the physical body grows by a continual assimilation of material from the Chemical Region," [of the Physical World] "the solids, liquids and gases, so also, as the Christ grows, will the two higher ethers grow in volume and form a luminous cloud around the man or woman sufficiently discerning to set his or her face heavenward; it will invest the pilgrim with light so brilliant that he 'walks in the light,' as a matter of actual fact. By the exercises given in the Western Mystery School of the Rosicrucians, it becomes possible in time to detach the two higher ethers, and the man may then step away from his physical body, leaving it for a time invested and vitalized only by the two lower ethers; he is then what we call an **INVISIBLE HELPER.**"

The **next lens or mirror** up the line toward the inner Christ or microcosmic sun, **our middle one**, is the **concrete mind body**, THE LOWER MIND OR MANAS, which, to repeat, is a composite of aspects of the physical brain, the reflecting ether and the mind sheath (*of the mental body*)—the cloud of specialized, more-or-less organized "mind-stuff" surrounding and interpenetrating the head centers (*as well as the entire physical, vital and desire bodies*). The clear, sane, rational, logical concrete mind will, hopefully, serve as one of our "stabilizing elephants" throughout our work in preparation for the Mystic Union. It will be especially needed during the intense stages of development of the devotional side of our nature, and in our early forays into the invisible worlds, where it will help to maintain our inner integrity and psychological stability. Most importantly, a **sense of humor** will reinforce this stabilizing force and maintain our perspective.

The first thing we must do with this middle lens or mirror is to **clean it up**. As Max Heindel wrote:



*“These are the directions for changing the condition of the mind. Let us say that a person has formed certain habits of thought which he does not like. Perhaps after a religious experience he finds that in spite of all his desires, these habits of thought will not leave him. But if he decides to cleanse his mind so that it shall contain nothing but pure and good thoughts, he may do this by simply refusing to admit impure thoughts. He will find that after a week or two, his mind is noticeably cleaner than at the commencement of his effort; that it holds by preference the religious thoughts he is seeking to generate in it. Even a most abnormally degenerate mind can be thoroughly cleansed inside of a few months. This is actual knowledge to many who have tried it, and anyone who wishes and is sufficiently persistent may have the same experience and enjoy a clean mind in a very short time.”*

This process also involves freeing the lower mind complex from all desire body influences. For this reason, and also to maintain contact with the devotional side of our nature, loving, self-forgetting service to others is stressed from the start in developing the intellectual side of our nature.

The **next step** in shaping, polishing and aiming this middle mirror of the mind is to develop the capacity for clear, consecutive, logical thinking. The study and practice of disciplines of logic, observation and discrimination, such as mathematics, geometry and the physical sciences, can be very helpful for this purpose. Quoting Annie Besant in *“Man and His Bodies”*:

*“(The mental body) grows by thought. Our thoughts are the materials we build into this mind body; by the exercise of our mental faculties, by the development of our artistic powers, our higher emotions, we are literally building the mind body day by day, each month and year of our lives. If you are not exercising your mental abilities; if, so far as your thoughts are concerned, you are a receptacle and not a creator; if you are constantly accepting from outside instead of forming from within; if as you go through life, the thoughts of other people are crowding into your mind; if this be all you know of thought and of thinking, then, life after life, your mind body cannot grow; life after life you come back very much as you went out; life after life you remain as an undeveloped individual. For it is only by the exercise of the mind itself, using its faculties creatively, exercising them, working with them—it is only by these means that the truly human evolution can proceed.*

*“In becoming aware of your thoughts and in so doing, becoming self-conscious, examine thoughts as they enter the mind, and their condition when they are sent back out of it—to see what you have added to them during their stay with you. In this way your mind will become really active, and will be exercising its creative powers.*

*“Another way of helping the growth of the mind body is the practice of concentration; that is the fixing of the mind on a point and holding it there firmly, not allowing it to drift or wander.”*

[As an aside, it has been said that a minimum of twelve seconds of mental fixity is required to enter a state of meditation.]

*“We should train ourselves in thinking steadily and consecutively, not allowing our minds to run suddenly from one thing to another, nor to fritter their energies away over a large number of insignificant thoughts. It is a good practice to follow a consecutive line of reasoning, in which one thought grows naturally out of the thought that went before it. This gradually develops in ourselves the intellectual qualities which make our thoughts sequential and therefore essentially rational. When the concrete mind thus works, thought following thought in definite and orderly succession, it is strengthening itself as an instrument of the Ego for activity in the Thought World.”*

All of these techniques build the ***middle mirror or lens*** of the mind-sheath, replacing coarser force-matter with finer force-matter both by a process of attraction from the Planetary Region of Concrete Thought, and by the inner process of transmutation of spiritual alchemy. ***This is the first great transmutation of “base metals” into “silver.”*** It, the mind sheath, becomes increasingly more organized and sharply defined in its form, and more luminous, and its vibratory pattern becomes more responsive to the emanations and reflections from the ***highest and most perfect of the three lenses or mirrors***, which will be discussed next.

Consider, now, this very important idea:

***“The mind is the great slayer of the Real; let the aspirant slay the slayer.”***

This statement is to be taken to mean that the lower concrete mind is to be trained to do its proper job—which is to serve as the reins to control the desire nature, to serve as one of the “stabilizing elephants”—by acting as an instrument of serial logic and rational thought on the mundane physical level, while being the ***perfect servant and tool*** of the higher intuitive mind—the coachman in our allegory, who holds the reins in his hands to control the horses.

This lower concrete mind is the “slayer of the Real” when it takes over or usurps the function of the higher mind, which, as the direct vehicle of the spiritual intelligence, is the only agency capable of seeing the real—or the Grand Design, the Divine Pattern, where all the parts are but connected facets of one great whole.

A special pitfall of great concern with the highly developed concrete mind is the possibility of the severing of its connection with the more permanent higher spiritual “Christ nature” and becoming thoroughly enmeshed with the lower, more temporary, separative nature, or person-

ality. This lower mind then becomes demonic and extremely dangerous, not in spite of, but because of its sharp, logical nature being used in cleverness and self-justification.

“Slaying the slayer” means that a person’s conscious awareness and sense of self-identity is centered in the higher intuitive “Mind of the Heart,” with its synthetic capacity to “see all-at-once” and thus control the lower mind, preventing the latter from usurping its own unique function as well as being influenced by the desire nature.

We have improved and perfected the reins so that the coachman can use them effectively to control the horses; but what if the coachman is either drunk, asleep, or has his mind on carousing; or if the coachman is an idiot, or is not even sitting in the driver’s seat? What, in this case, is the poor passenger to do? Who in their right mind would want to be a passenger in that carriage? I certainly wouldn’t!

The ***last and most resplendent mirror***, and the one receiving the direct emanation of the indwelling Spiritual Ego or Christ-Self, is the higher intellect, the seat of conscience, the intuitive “Mind of the Heart.” It is the vehicle of consciousness of the Ego in the Region of Abstract Thought of the Thought or Manasic World, the “Causal World” where all ideas are in germinal form. This region—***a subjective, formless or Arupa world***—is the home of the ***Human Spirit*** (*the 3<sup>rd</sup>, or individuality, or Activity aspect of our three-fold Egoic consciousness*)—a realm of tone—which is why good music so universally inspires and uplifts us. It reminds us of our true home.

The ***lower concrete mind works*** in serial logic, is ***analytical*** and tends to ***see everything as separate***, is ruled by the cold intellectuality of ***Mercury***, and is susceptible to the emotional and fecundative influences of the ***Moon***. The ***higher intuitive Mind*** of the Heart is ***synthetic*** and ***sees all-at-once***, perceives the relationship of all separate parts within the ***unity of the greater whole***, and is ruled by the ***Sun***, which transmits the Divine Fire of Love of the Father. It is also amenable to the subtle vibrations of the outer planets Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

When the lower mind is trained to become the obedient servant of the higher, and is freed from all the influences of the lower nature, it serves as the “Messenger of the Gods” or ***voice of conscience***. The higher mind serves as the Divine Intelligence which translates the archetypal symbolism of the Divine Will-Wisdom to the serial logic of the lower concrete mind—which serves to ***focus consciousness***. This is rather like a computer interface unit which converts the digital pattern of the computer intelligence to an analog signal for a viewing screen or a printer. It can also be likened to the process of transmitting a performance at a Television studio to our home-TV receiver through its antenna which picks up the VHF or UHF signal, and through a series of electronic circuits, converts this signal to a picture. Our ***highest mirror*** may also be likened to a step-down transformer between the Egoic consciousness and the lower concrete mind.

Our ***highest mirror*** has been given many names. It has been called the “***Vesture of Light***”; the Gnostics have called it the “***Robe of Glory***”; the Greeks have referred to it as the “***Augoeides***” or “***Self-***

**Radiant Divine Fragment**"; Theosophists as the "**Buddhic**" or "**Causal Body**"; and the Hindus as the "**Karana Sarira**" or "**Karapadhi**."

In the Bible, according to Geoffrey Hodson in "*The Hidden Wisdom of the Holy Bible*," the Augoeides is symbolized variously as the "Heavenly Jerusalem" or "Tabernacle of the Living God," as, for example, in Revelation 21: 2-3:

2. "And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3. "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God."

and in the 19th Psalm, verses 4 and 5:

4. "In them (the heavens) hath He set a tabernacle for the Sun.

5. "Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber."

or this **highest body** is depicted as "a new or cleansed robe, which is renewed or greatly expanded after each complete cycle of initiation, the expanded condition constituting the newness; and as the Ark of Noah, which consciousness both contains and preserves the fruits harvested from each life cycle or incarnation." **It functions as the outer gesture of the Higher Ego.** In Joseph's interpretation of the Butler's dream (*Genesis 40:9-13*), "Pharaoh's cup, filled with grape juice or wine, placed in the King's hand by the Butler is the Augoeides. This interpretation may be applied to all cups and chalices used as symbols in Scriptures and legends," so that our Augoeides or highest spiritual body is, in us, **the Holy Grail, the only receptacle which can contain the fiery waters of the Holy Spirit** or direct outpouring of the Solar Logos—the "Blood of Christ."

Quoting Paul in II Corinthians 5:1-2:

1. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

2. "For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is in Heaven."

Our highest vehicle or mirror, or *upadhi*, has also been called the "**Thread Self**" or **Sutratma**, upon which are strung like beads the quintessence of the experiences of each incarnation, and as Annie Besant wrote (in "*Man and His Bodies*");

"The Causal Body is the receptacle, the storehouse, in which all the man's treasures are stored for eternity, and it grows as the lower na-

ture hands up more and more that is worthy to be built into its structure. It is that into which everything is woven which can endure, and in which are stored the germs of every quality to be carried over to the next incarnation."

[It should be noted that this also includes shortcomings and negative tendencies which are stored as energy patterns in the permanent "seed-atoms" of the personality, but not in the Causal Body itself which is "sinless," though incompletely developed and organized at the present stage of evolution in most people. The Causal Body, then, suffers from omission rather than commission. The sum total of all positive and negative tendencies, faculties, characteristics, etc., are called, in Theosophy, "Skandhas"—"bundles" of attributes.]

*"Thus, the lower manifestations depend wholly on the growth and development of this 'man for whom the hour never strikes.' Dealing, as we do here, only with the present human cycle, we may say that until this highest body comes into existence, there is no real man [no individuality].*

*"When, by the power of the Self [or Higher Ego] preparing its own habitation, the matter [or "mindstuff"] of the mental plane [the Region of Concrete Thought of the Thought World—the lower Manas] begins slowly to evolve, then there is a downpouring from the great ocean of Atma-Buddhi [or Will-Power (Divine Spirit) and Love-Wisdom (Life Spirit) aspects of the Logos] which is ever brooding over the evolution of man—and this, as it were, meets the upward-growing, unfolding mind-stuff, comes into union with it, fertilizes it, and at that point of union, the Causal Body, the Individual, is formed."*

The above statement describes the **second great alchemical transmutation** of "silver" into "gold," the **"Baptism of Fire"** or of the **"Holy Spirit,"** in which coarser "mind-stuff," or concrete thought "substance" is transmuted or digested into finer "mind-stuff," or abstract thought "substance" (i.e., the raising of vibrations), by the "enzymatic" action of the "Holy Spirit."

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This completes a rather long discourse on the development of the intellectual or head side of the nature, from the standpoint of the occultist. This kind of approach is called, in the East, **Jnana Yoga**—the Path to God, or Self-Realization, through Knowledge. (The words "knowledge," "know," "Gnosis" and "Gnostic" are derived from this Sanskrit root.) Now it is time to look at the development of the heart or devotional side, from the point of view of the mystic. In the East, this approach is called **Bhakti Yoga**—the Devotional Path.

Paracelsus had well said:

***“There are two heavens in men; the one is Luna Cebrium,”*** [This is the lower concrete mind—our philosophic Silver. According to Paracelsus and others, the Moon rules the brain.] ***“but in the heart of man is the true microcosmic heaven.”*** [This is our philosophic Gold, ruled by the Sun.] ***“Yea, the heart of man is the true heaven of an immortal being, out of which the soul has never yet come, which new Olympus and Heaven, (the Christ Spirit of Love-Wisdom) has chosen for His dwelling place in man.”***

Rudolph Steiner commented further:

*“The initiate has only acquired the strength to lift his head to the heights of knowledge by guiding his heart to the depths of veneration and devotion. The heights of spirit can only be climbed by passing through the portals of humility. You can only acquire right knowledge when you have learnt to esteem it.*

*“The inner life of devotion is a must in this day and age for there is very little to impel us to this veneration and esteem for the higher life externally today except to become disillusioned and disaffected with its shallowness and materialism.”*

As there are steps in developing the intellectual side of our nature, so there are steps in bringing out the devotional side. The first step, it is suggested, is to intensify our higher emotions by melting the encrustation and crystallization that we have built up from childhood as a protective psychological shell for survival against the onslaughts of life. These encrustations harden the heart and block the outpouring of these very spiritual feelings and yearnings which are actually currents of very fine force-matter. What better melting power is there than in certain music which embodies these higher emotions, or other art forms, or a glorious sunset, or other natural scenes such as high mountains.

For me, the late string quartets of Beethoven were most effective for this purpose, especially the middle three. Different works, of course, will be effective for different people, since we each vibrate or resonate to a different keynote. Mystical symbolism and allegory are also designed to open up the heart and awaken the intuition of the higher mind. Visualization of cosmic processes happening within us also opens up the intuition.

Our relationship with God, or really our higher “Christ Self,” which is an extension of God, must be intensely personal. Here are the stages of unfoldment of this relationship as described by a great teacher (Swami Vivekananda in his “Bhakti Yoga”) at the end of the last Century:

***“Stage I—The Peaceful*** — *The man worships God without the fire of love in him, without its ‘madness’ in his brain—just the commonplace love, a little higher than mere forms and ceremonies and symbols, but not like the madness of intensely active love.”*

**“Stage 2—Servantship** — It comes when the man thinks he is the servant of the Lord. The attachment of the faithful servant is his ideal. This stage can also take the form of the love of a child for its father—God is our Father. In this stage we are in a subordinate position of relationship.”

**“Stage 3—Friendship** — ‘Thou art our beloved friend.’ A man is able to open up his heart to God as he would to a close friend. There is the idea of equality between two friends. God becomes our friend to whom we can confide the deepest secrets of our hearts and who will not judge us harshly for them. God is then our playmate—we are so immersed in pure love that we do not even know that he is God!”

**“Stage 4—Loving God not as our Father but as our Child** — This is a discipline to enable us to detach all ideas of power from the concept of God. The idea of power brings with it awe. There should be no awe in love. To conceive God as mighty, majestic and glorious, as the Lord of the Universe, or as the God of Gods, the lover says he does not care. It is to avoid this association with God of the fear-creating sense of power that he worships God as his own child. The child’s position is that of the receiver, and out of love for the child, the devoted parents will give up their bodies a hundred times over. This is the idea of the Baby Jesus with Christians.” [And so we should look upon it when the birth of the Christ Child occurs in us.]

**“Stage 5—Sweet** — As the love between man and woman. In this representation of divine love, God is our husband. We are all women; there are no men in this world; there is but one man, and that is He, our Beloved. All that love which man gives to woman, or woman to man, has here to be given up to the Lord. Who in this Universe is more fit to become the husband but He. Whom else can this heart love? He is the most beautiful, the most sublime—He is beauty itself, sublimity itself. To him who has been blessed with such a relationship, the whole of nature changes, worlds vanish, suns and moons die out, and the Universe itself melts away into that one infinite ocean of love. That is the perfection of the madness of love.”

“Ah!, but the true spiritual lover does not rest even there; even the love of husband and wife is not mad enough for him, so that he takes up also the idea of illegitimate love, because it is so strong. The impropriety of it is not at all the thing he has in view. The nature of this love is such that the more obstructions there are for its free play, the stronger and more passionate it becomes.”

[At this point a warning must be given that all of the above has to be understood in the right way and practiced with balance and awareness. In this last stage, we can become a “mad elephant,” so that we must keep in readiness the two calm animals needed to stabilize the crazy one—the sane mind and the sound body!]

*“The devotee of the Mystic Heart Path may say: ‘My friends, the whole world is a lunatic asylum. Some are mad after worldly love, some after name, some after fame, some after money, some after salvation and going to heaven. In this big lunatic asylum I am also mad, I am mad after God. If you are mad after money, I am mad after God. You are mad; so am I. I think my madness is, after all, the best.’ ”*

And now to conclude with a short composite of outstanding devotional writing pertaining to the Mystic Union; and, finally, to perform and consummate the Mystical Spiritual Marriage. Here are combined excerpts from the writings of San Juan de la Cruz—St. John of the Cross (including “Dark Night of the Soul,” “Ascent of Mount Carmel,” “Spiritual Canticle” and “Living Flame of Love”), the Song of Solomon (Song of Songs) and the 45<sup>th</sup> Psalm:

*“The Bride calls Him ‘Beloved’ in order the more to move Him to her prayer, for when God is loved, He responds to the petitions of His lover with great readiness. . . . Some call the Spouse ‘Beloved’ when He is not in truth their Beloved because they have not their heart wholly with Him. . . . wherefore they are not at once granted their petition until they persevere in prayer and, at the same time, come to have their spirit more continuously with God, and their heart more wholly with Him in affection of love, for naught is obtained of God save by love.*

*“ . . . It is a characteristic of the lover, when she cannot commune with her Beloved in His presence, to do so by the best means that she may. And so at this point the soul would fain use her desires, affections and sighs as messengers, who are so well able to make known to her Beloved the secrets of her heart. . . . With yearnings and sighs that come from the heart, wounded now with love for God, she begins to invoke her Beloved.”*

**First, a chorus of aspiring souls asks the Bride:**

*“Where has your Beloved gone, Oh fairest among women? Where has He turned aside that we may seek Him with you and help you to find Him?”*

**The Bride replies:**

*“My Beloved has gone down into His garden, to the beds of spices, to pasture His flock in the garden, and to gather lilies. I am my Beloved’s and my Beloved is mine: He pastures His flock among the lilies. I am my Beloved’s and His desire is toward me. . . . His left hand should be under my head and His right hand should embrace me.”*

**The Bridegroom admonishes the Bride and the chorus:**



*"I am come into my garden my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk: eat, Oh friends; drink, yea, drink abundantly, Oh beloved. . . . I charge you, Oh daughters of Jerusalem, that you do not stir up nor awaken my love until she is ready."*

**Addressing now the Bridegroom:**

*"My heart is stirred by a noble theme: I address my poem to the King: my tongue as ready as the pen of a busy scribe. Of all men, thou art the most handsome, grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee forever. Thy throne, Lord, is for ever and ever: the scepter of thy kingdom is a right scepter. Thou lovest virtue as much as thou hatest wickedness. Hero, strap thy sword at thy side, in majesty and splendor; on, ride on, in the cause of truth, humility and virtue. This is why God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad. King's daughters are among thy maids of honor: upon thy right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir."*

**Addressing now the Bride:**

*"Listen, daughter, pay careful attention: forget thy nation and thy ancestral home; then shall the King greatly desire thy beauty: for he is now thy Lord, bow down and worship him. And the daughter of Tyre will solicit thy favor with a gift; even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favor."*

**The Logos now speaks of the Union:**

*"**The King's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold** [the Golden Wedding Garment or Soul Body]. She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins, her companions, follow her and enter the King's palace with gladness and rejoicing."*

**Of the two united and the Union consummated:**

*"Thy ancestors will be replaced by sons who thou makest princes of the earth. I will immortalize thy name and nations will praise thee forever."*

**The Bride, finally, sings this song in her intimate union with her Beloved Bridegroom:**

*"Oh love's living flame,  
Tenderly you wound  
My soul's deepest center!*

Since you no longer evade me  
Will you, please, at last consummate:  
Rend the veil of this sweet encounter!

"Oh cautery so tender!  
Oh pampered wound! Oh soft hand!  
Oh touch so delicately strange,  
Tasting of eternal life  
And canceling all debts!  
Killing, death into life you change!

"Oh lamps of fiery lure,  
In whose shining transparence  
The deep caverns of the senses,  
Blind and obscure,  
Warmth and light, with strange flares,  
Gives with the lover's caresses!

"How tame and loving  
Your memory rises in my breast,  
Where secretly only you live,  
And in your fragrant breathing,  
Full of goodness and grace,  
How delicately in love you make me feel!"

**This, then, is the Alpha and the Omega of it all:**

*We who have been embodied as men must seek and find the Bride in us, and through her, seek and unite with our beloved, the Bridegroom. And we who have embodied as women, having the advantage over our brothers in knowing the feeling of being the Bride, must recognize and come to terms with the masculine in ourselves before seeking our true Beloved, the Bridegroom. All of us, as the Bride, must don the Golden Wedding Garment which we will have woven by our loving deeds and noble thoughts before we can walk the path to the altar to join our Beloved who we will recognize by His Vesture of Light, the Robe of Glory.*

*The Mystic Wedding Ceremony will be performed by the Holy Spirit, the outpouring of the Life which is the embodiment of the melting Fire of Love of the Father, and the dissolving, purifying Water of life of the Mother—the Celestial Virgin. The Mystic Union will occur, and the Marriage will be consummated when the serpent sleeping coiled at the base of the spine is awakened and kindled to incandescence by the fiery waters; then, rising out of the "Land of Egypt" through the Seven Seals called the Seven Churches of Asia to the Place of the Skull, melt and dissolve together the al-*

chemical King and Queen, Joseph and Mary, RA and ISIS, and from this truly immaculate conception will be born in the manger their progeny, the Christ Child.

This newly born "Hermaphrodite Philosopher," symbolized in Alchemy and Mystic Masonry as a glorious two-headed eagle or phoenix, can now serve as a living stone in the Arch of the Temple, the Guardian Wall of Humanity, as a coworker with the great Christ Spirit, the Solar Logos, in transmuting the "Sins of the Earth" through the combined power of the loving mind and the thinking heart; and in so doing, reduce the burden of that Great Spirit and help speed His ultimate liberation from this crystallized earthly tomb. We, In achieving this Mystic Union, will then earn our own ultimate release from bondage.

# Alchemical Depictions

*Of the Stages of Progress toward  
Realization of the Mystic Union of  
the Purified Mind (Personality)  
and Heart (Higher Ego)*

*Using the Images of J. D. Mylius,  
Philosophia Reformata, 1622*

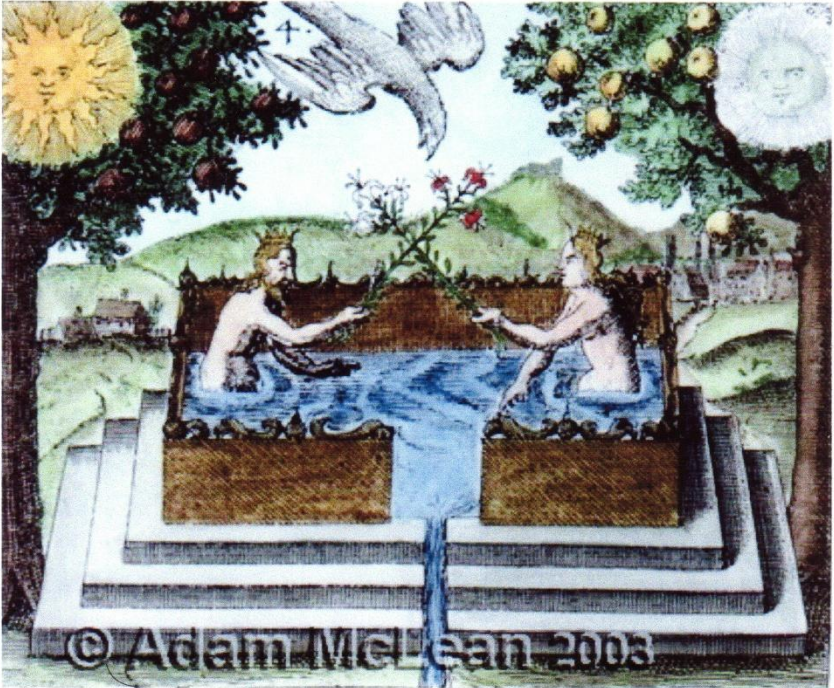
# The Prenuptial Vow



Hand colored by Adam McLain—<http://www.alcbemy.dial.pipex.com>

*The Final Commitment of the  
Personality to Unite with the  
Higher Ego and Witnessed by  
the Holy Spirit*

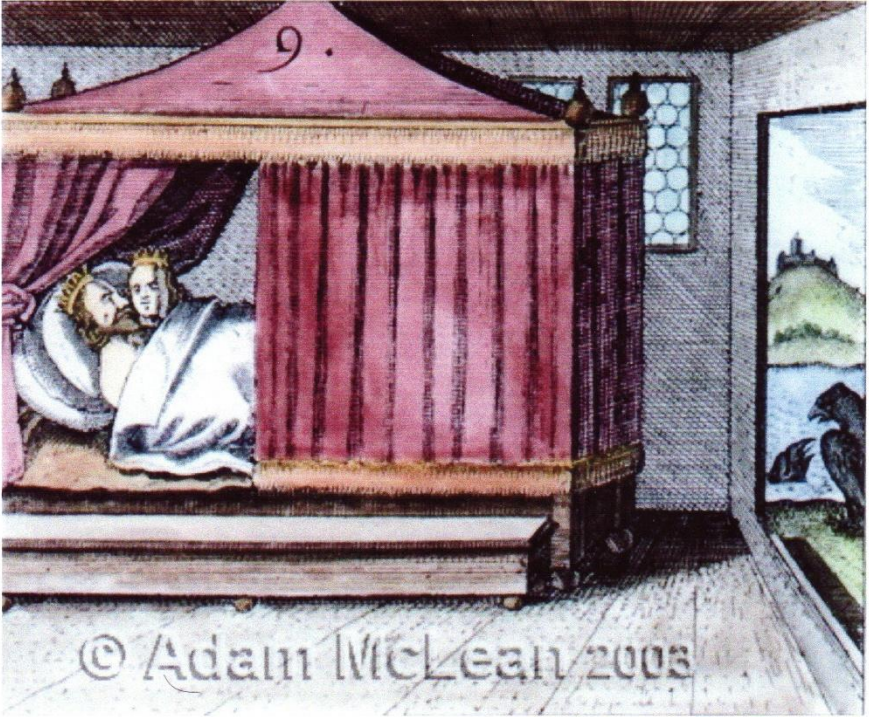
# *The Mystic Union of Sol and Luna*



*Hand colored by Adam McLain—<http://www.alchemy.dial.pipex.com>*

*The Purified and Perfected  
Mind and Heart Unite While  
Overseen by the Holy Spirit  
(the Phoenix Bird)*

# The Consummation of the Mystic Union



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*Under the Watchful Eye  
of the Holy Spirit*

# *The Alchemical King and Queen*



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*With their Progeny—the  
Newly-Born Adept*



# The Hermaphrodite Philosopher



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*Who Alone is Able to Harness  
the Inner Warrior to Subdue  
the Lower Animal Nature  
and Direct the Kundalini  
Creative Serpent-Fire*

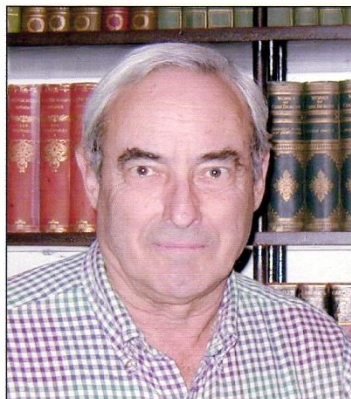
# The Final Triumph



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*The Completion of the  
Great Work—A New "Master  
of the Day" has Arisen!*

## ***ABOUT THE AUTHOR***



***Bruce Fisher had been a professional chemist for 40 years, having worked in both industry and government. He received a doctorate in organic chemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1957. His work has included the development of an improved artificial kidney dialysis membrane, as well as several new types of synthetic polymers, for which he has received a number of patents. He retired in April 1995 to devote full time to teaching, lecturing and writing on philosophical and metaphysical topics.***

***Dr. Fisher has been a student of the Ancient Wisdom Teachings for over 30 years, and has the unique ability to integrate both Eastern and Western occultism and mysticism with modern scientific views. He was for five years a regular lecturer at the Philosophical Research Society in Los Angeles, California. He and his wife, Suzanne, who is also a teacher and student of philosophy and metaphysics, reside in Prescott, Arizona.***

*"The Astral or Desire World — home of desires, impressionability, wishes, feelings, emotions and aspirations is preeminently a realm of color — and a kaleidoscope of changing forms; a four-dimensional world — where our perceptions of space and time, and the laws of mechanics and gravitation differ vastly from those of the Physical World; a world of duality and conflict — in which consciousness is polarized by attraction and repulsion, interest and disinterest. Astral 'substance' or 'desire-stuff' is of the nature of force-matter even more evanescent and transitory than the finest ethers of the Physical World. The astral or desire body is our vehicle of feelings, emotions and desires — our emotional organism; it is an energy field specialized from this 'desire stuff' or force-matter."*

**From the introduction of Part I of this volume**



*"The mental or mind body is currently just a thought-form — a more-or-less organized cloud of force-matter or energy field specialized from the Planetary Region of Concrete Thought. As such, it serves as our organ of concrete thought much as the physical brain serves as the organ of physical vision and the biocomputer which registers thoughts and emotions for alert waking consciousness in the Physical World. The seven levels of the Thought World are divided into two regions — the Region of Concrete Thought and the Region of Abstract Thought. The Region of Concrete Thought consists of the lower four levels of the Thought World. The force-matter of this region is of a sufficiently low order of vibration that it may be molded into thought-forms."*

**From the introduction to Part II of this volume**



*"The first true individualization occurs in the human stage — when the permanent mental unit, or seed-atom of the mind, has been sufficiently developed or awakened to have specialized a 'mind body' composed of all four levels of concrete 'mind-stuff.' At this point, the link of mind has formed — and the former group-soul sheath has dissolved; in its place, the Ego is enshrouded in a sheath composed of the upper three levels of 'mind-stuff': i.e., force-matter of the Region of Abstract Thought of the Thought World. This is the causal body (Theosophical term). The causal body has been given various other names — such as the Karana Sarira or Karanapadhi (Hindu), the Augoeides or Vesture of Light (Greek), and the Robe of Glory (Gnostic)."*

**From the introduction to Part IV of this volume**



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